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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT

Issue No 140

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June 2, 2010



DUNKIRK SPIRIT LIVES ON

Veterans celebrate 70th anniversary of dramatic rescue with Channel crossing



FULL STORY SEE PAGES 6-7

POLYTUNNEL VIEWS GIVEN GREEN LIGHT

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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Watch the Little Ships arrive in France as part of the 70th anniversary of the Dunkirk evacuation

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After a public inquiry the Government's planning inspector has allowed Hernhill Nurseries, near Dargate, to erect 8,000 polytunnels, such as the one above, to increase production of their strawberry crop

Picture JILL HURST

■ BY JILL HURST

A CONTROVERSIAL plan to erect 8,000 polytunnels on Faversham countryside has been given the go-ahead by the Government's planning inspector.

The expansion at Hernhill Nurseries, near Dargate, was turned down by Swale council and fiercely opposed by people living near to the site, including former boxer Barry McGuigan.

Councillors said that as well as spoiling the views, the structures would exacerbate the flood risk on the land, north-west of Thanet Way A299 and south of High Street Road, Waterham.

However, following a public inquiry planning inspector Jennifer Vyse upheld the appeal, by nursery owner S&G group, because she said the economic benefits of the development outweighed the concerns surrounding the visual impact.

She added: "Strawberry crops are currently grown within glasshouses at the Hernhill nursery site. They are produced in March to June, and September to December. The crops cannot be grown in glasshouses during the summer because the heat is too great.

"The appeal scheme involves the tabletop growing of additional strawberry crops within the proposed polytunnels which would allow for the production during the summer months, such that strawberry growing can take place throughout the year."

During the appeal S&G told Ms Vyse that expanding the nursery would result in year-round jobs for up to 450 seasonal workers together with an increase from 19 to 39

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

1.2.1
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yourlifestyle

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New kid has it off to a tee

WEATHER

COMPETITION

MUSIC/TRAVEL

MOTORING

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KCC puts region forward to trial new academies

SCHOOLS in Swale could spearhead the Government's new academy system after education officials at Kent County Council offered the region as a test bed.

The news will come as a shock to many headteachers in the district who are yet to be briefed on the full implications of the proposed bill which has led to concerns of a two-tier education system.

Kent County Council cabinet member for education, Sarah Hohler, said: "Whilst supporting the Academies Bill we need to know more about the detail. Last week I wrote to the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove, requesting an early meeting to discuss his plans.

I suggested that Kent education officers work with his officials and offered Kent as a test bed for these new ways of working.

"These are exciting times for education and I look forward to working with our schools as the new legislation moves through Parliament.

The leader of KCC Paul Carter, and I have also written to all headteachers in Swale to offer our support and invited them to discuss the legislation in depth next month at a series of meetings. We need to make sure the benefits KCC can bring to a school partnership are recognised."

Headteacher of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Faversham, David Anderson, said he was not aware the district had been offered as a test bed.

He added: "Since Ofsted changed

EXCLUSIVE

■ BY JILL HURST

their inspection regime in 2009, the number of schools being classified as 'outstanding' has fallen from 18 per cent to eight per cent so only a few would be able to take advantage of the proposals. We are yet to understand the whole picture so it's difficult to make a judgment, but I would hope that admissions procedures would remain unchanged."

New legislation will give all schools ranked 'outstanding' by Ofsted the right to step out of local authority control immediately and become academies.

However, with only four schools in Swale holding this rating some fear education in the district will become a postcode lottery.

Speaking on behalf of Swale Labour Party, Roger Truelove said he believes the proposed system could result in social engineering. He added: "The great fear must be that once academies are given control of admissions they will sadly want to use procedures to select those children who will sustain their elite reputations, the ones that gave them academy status in the first place. They will not want any challenging children, and that includes expensive costs to service special needs youngsters."

"And, of course, they will want to recruit the most successful teachers from the remaining maintained schools. It is all about a two-tier system. It is classical Conservative policy, but it is sad to see the Liberal Democrats getting mixed up in elitist social engineering."



IN TALKS: Sarah Hohler

Council disappointed with final outcome

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

permanent positions and the introduction of two apprenticeships.

According to S&G the additional 18 hectares will increase its contribution to the local economy from £9.2 million to £15.4m.

Ms Vyse concluded: "While I have found there would be some harm to the character and appearance of the area, it would not be significant. I have also found there would be substantial benefits to the rural economy. "Since the visual impact of the development could be mitigated to a large extent, I consider the balance of considerations lies with the benefits which outweigh the limited harm. Therefore, for reasons set out above, I conclude on balance the appeal should succeed."

Ms Vyse's decision means the nursery can increase its yearly strawberry yield from 1,500 tonnes to 3,000 tonnes, expanding its coverage from 15 hectares to 33 hectares. It is also set to construct a substantial reservoir and land drainage systems.

A spokesman for Swale council said: "Having contested the appeal on the grounds of the anticipated harm to the character and appearance of the landscape and the visual amenity of the area, we are disappointed that while the inspector agreed with the council that there would be some harm to the character and appearance of the area, she concluded it would not be significant and, in any case, that it would be outweighed by substantial benefits to the rural economy.

"She therefore decided the appeal should be allowed. The council is disappointed with the decision to grant planning permission."

Motorist double legal limit when arrested

A SHEERNESS man was disqualified from driving for 18 months after being found guilty of drink driving.

Paul Blundell, 37, of Fourth Avenue, was sentenced on May 19 at Sittingbourne Magistrates Court.

Police pulled Blundell over on May 5 as he drove his silver Renault Clio through Vincent Gardens.

He was found to have 77 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35.

As well as being disqualified Blundell was ordered to pay a fine of £100 and costs of a further £100.

Drivers under influence targeted

A SUMMER campaign against driving while under the influence of drink and drugs was launched this week.

Swale police say the crackdown will run throughout June and aim to raise awareness of the dangers of drivers who flout the law.

Traffic officer for mid-Kent, PC Warren Jarvis, said the statistics were a stark reminder of why the campaign was so important.

He added: "The deaths of one in six people killed on the roads are attributable to a drink or drug driver.

"Motorists who are twice the drink drive limit are 50 times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash."

Officers conducted the same campaign this time last year, resulting in a 64.7 per cent rise in the number of arrests in the district.

PC Jarvis added: "This year's campaign also coincides with the World Cup and we are very aware there's an increased possibility of people drinking and driving after watching football matches at their local pub."

"We deal with drink and drug drivers throughout the year."

The purpose of our summer campaign is to change people's approach to driving and reinforce that even one alcoholic drink is one too many – you don't have to be drunk to be dangerous.

"Drivers prosecuted for drink driving face a disqualification, a criminal record, a hefty fine or even a prison sentence."

"But the consequences of a collision could be far worse – you could kill yourself or someone you love."



UP: Last year's campaign saw rise in arrests

Business rates freeze saves dock businesses

Government is starting review

■ BY JILL HURST

BUSINESSES at Sheerness docks welcomed the Government's decision to suspend demands for the payment of millions of pounds in retrospective business rates but said they would continue campaigning for a change in the law.

Tax collectors wanted to claw back £4.8 million from port operators, putting hundreds of jobs at risk and pushing many of the 49 companies operating at the island's dockyard to the brink of insolvency.

However the new Lib-Con coalition Government said it had suspended all action and would undertake an urgent review.

French car importer GEFICO UK – one the largest employers at the docks – threatened to scale back its operation and lay off up to a hundred employees if forced to pay £3 million in back payments.

Howard Nash, director of automotive at GEFICO UK said while the company welcomed the freeze they would continue to demand a



CAMPAGN: Businesses at Sheerness docks will continue to fight against demands for retrospective business rates

change in the law. He added: "The damage that this has caused in the trust between International companies and the UK has been significant.

"We need not only ensure that the port operators are treated fairly but also that trading relations between the UK and International companies are restored. That means a change in the law which is still very much the focus for GEFICO."

The rates row was sparked in 2008 by a decision by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) – an

offshoot of HM Revenue & Customs – to impose additional business rates on port companies, backdated to 2005.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson said he was delighted at the news. He added: "We pressed the previous government to scrap the unfair backdating of business rates but our pleas fell on deaf ears.

"Businesses in the port of Sheerness were particularly hard hit with companies facing rates bills of over £4 million.

"If this retrospective payment had been enforced I am convinced that many people would have lost their jobs and that would have been a disaster for our community.

"The port is very important to Sheppey's economy so I am delighted that the new Government has made helping pressed port-based businesses one of its first acts."

Mr Henderson said the payment freeze will be funded from the £6 billion public sector savings announced by the Chief Secretary on Monday. In addition, the Government will pledge to continue to explore options up to and including primary legislation to offer ports companies permanent relief from backdated bills.

Announcing the tax review, Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles, said: "Backdated port taxes levied on a vital part of Britain's export industry have left many businesses unfairly facing hefty bills reaching into the millions in some cases.

"I will not allow Government to idly look on any longer as vital business in the south east stare into the face of insolvency as a result of ports tax and we are making good on our promise to act."



TOWED: Moonlight II was towed back to safety after running aground off Grain Spit

Gales failed to prevent rescue

SHEERNESS lifesavers battled force seven gales to rescue five men stranded on their 53-foot vessel after engine failure.

Moonlight II ran aground off Grain Spit on May 25 at 7.30pm. Low water levels prevented the all-weather lifeboat from getting close enough to the boat so the inshore dinghy was launched.

RNLI Sheerness crew member Nathan Silveston boarded the trapped vessel.

The anchor could not be lifted and Mr Silverston cut the chain with a hacksaw to release it.

Next a tow line was transferred to the lifeboat and the Moonlight II was towed to Queenborough harbour and secured.

Crackdown on foul problem in Minster

COUNCIL workers and police officers were forced to clear up dog poo in the Leas area of Minster because owners are leaving it in such a mess.

Employees from Swale council, Kent County Council and Swale police took part in a comprehensive clean-up of the area. They even installed a poo bag dispenser on the Leas leaving owners no excuse for their pets' unwelcome deposits.

Police officers are now set to patrol the area issuing on-the-spot fines of £80 to those who fail to follow the rules.

Tim Oxley, animal control officer for Swale council, said: "This dispenser has been sited on the Leas in a response to the priorities identified by the community.

"We have been working closely with Minster Parish Council, as well as the neighbourhood police to proactively address this problem and encourage local dog owning residents, to always scoop it, bag it and bin it."

Sergeant Stefan Martin added: "Swale police and the council do listen to our residents, and work together to find practical solutions to local problems."

"In fact a lot of what we learn comes from local intelligence rather



BAG IT: A bag dispenser has been installed in the Leas area to reduce dog mess

than actual calls or reports – so I do encourage the Sheppey residents to report any antisocial behaviour they witness, including dog fouling, to ensure that we are aware of the problems that are being experienced.

The Swale Community Partnership recognises that this is a problem for a lot of Swale residents, so will maintain it as a priority. Patrols and inspections of key areas by street wardens, PCSOs and the animal control officer will continue to monitor and tackle the problem across the borough."

If you need to report anti-social behaviour call the antisocial behaviour hotline on 01795 417575.

Traders begin Xmas campaign

FAVERSHAM shopkeepers are being urged to take part in Christmas shopping campaigns.

The recently-formed Faversham Traders group – which represents town shops and small traders – is looking to finalise plans for new pre-Christmas shopping promotions.

The group is hoping town centre shops will take part in late-opening evenings in the run-up to the big day.

A meeting for shopkeepers to discuss ideas is being organised for early this month.

Group member Kate Rowland of Past Sentence, West Street, said: "We are making a start by working on ideas for Christmas shopping because it is such an important part of the local retail trade. We have started now because these things take a long time to organise. There are a lot of other ideas developing, but this will be one of the first ones off the stocks."

Sunday opening

"There has been a lot of positive enthusiasm at our meetings for the ideas now coming out."

"We want to help take the town centre forward and make Faversham shopping even better for locals and visitors. In this way we should be able to build up trade for shops and other local businesses."

"We really hope everyone gets behind this, some of the things discussed will be great fun and should be good for trade, too."

Other proposals being worked on are how to support West Street traders with Sunday opening and spread it to other streets, reviving the town's St Crispin's day celebrations and making the most of existing festivals, and improving the evening economy.

To find out more telephone The Faversham Enterprise Partnership on 00795 539339.

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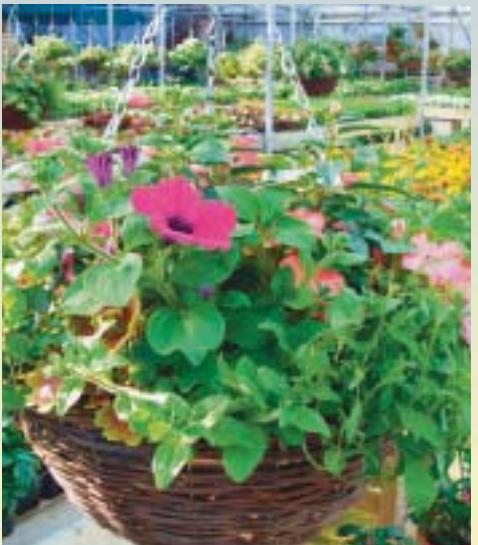
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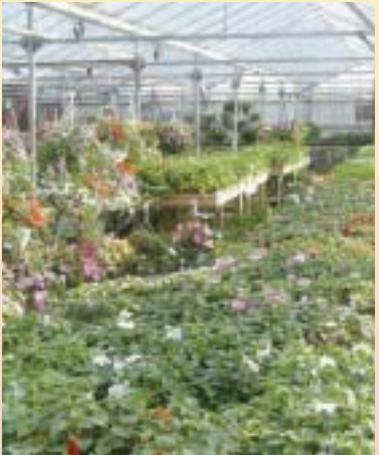
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BOOZING: New proposals will look at the extent of Sheppey's drink and drugs problem and try to find some solutions

Sobering look at island's drink and drug issues

SHEPPEY'S drink and drug problems will be investigated in a new research project.

The scheme, funded by South East Coastal Community (SECC) aims to begin solving the island's social problems.

Velibor Milovanovic, project manager of SECC, said: "Drug use and alcohol are both part of the overall crime picture in the area."

Mr Milovanovic said they want to help the community become better equipped to deal with the issues and hopefully eradicate them.

Mike Brown, chair of Sheppey Matters, added: "We can find out where the shortages of services are, if there is a particular age group or social group which has a bigger problem so community services can be targeted.

Addiction

"If people start at a young age, then the older they get, the more difficult it is to get them to stop.

"Alcohol is the bigger problem, because it is cheap and within easy access."

Swale police are supporting the scheme in hopes it will help provide a long-term solution to the island's addiction problems.

Sheerness PC Gavin Scales said "I would like to see a lot more people coming away from

■ BY SOPHIE UDUBASCEANU
and IRINA PELTEGOVA

the habit so they will not go back to crime."

The project will be based on questionnaires, interviews and focus group meetings.

Project supervisor Dr John Foster said: "One of the first things we are going to do is survey all school kids, men and women, 15 and above, about their drug and alcohol use. I hope we are going to get a really good idea about what is really happening on the island.

"It's about getting the community to make these changes for itself. We are not intending to just do a project and that's it; the aim is to get something done."

Researchers hope about 800 people will take part in the project which will be completely anonymous.

The data collection will be conducted by volunteers.

Counsellor Ken Pugh thinks intervention and prevention could save the NHS millions of pounds in treatment, as well as police time, because many problems stem from problem drinking and drug addiction.

To get involved in the project contact researcher Kelly Barshell in confidence on k.barshell.hlc@hotmail.com.

Man fulfills lifelong goal thanks to comp

A FAVERSHAM football fan fulfilled his dream when he stepped onto the pitch at Stamford Bridge.

Life-long supporter of Chelsea football club, John Carly, got to play a game on the turf of the Premier League champions after his name was picked out of thousands.

The 54-year-old won his prize after being selected in a draw run by travel agent Thomas Cook.

As part of his prize Mr Carly got to play as part of an 11-a-side game made up of other competition winners from all over the country.

He said of his experience: "After 30 years of watching games at Stamford Bridge, I was excited and nervous at the same time



SCORED: John Carly played at Stamford Bridge

about playing there. It's an honour to be able to say I've followed in the footsteps of footballing legends and the experience is something I'll never forget."

Have you been screened?

WOMEN in Swale are being urged to take up their regular cervical screening tests as part of a national campaign.

Cervical Screening Awareness Week runs from June 7 to June 13. It aims to educate females about the second most common cancer to affect women under the age of 35.

The disease is almost entirely preventable and screening is freely available.

The number of women seeking tests rose dramatically following the death of TV personality Jade Goody in 2009. However the director of public health, Dr John Rodriguez, said the upward trend had not been sustained.

He added: "Recent figures show that numbers attending have dropped again. Cervical cancer is almost always preventable. If you've had a letter inviting you for screening don't ignore it."

To find out more contact your GP surgery or telephone NHS Direct on 0845 4647.

Volunteer for the RSPB

ISLE of Sheppey nature reserve, RSPB Elmley, is looking for helpers to give up their time as part of volunteer's week.

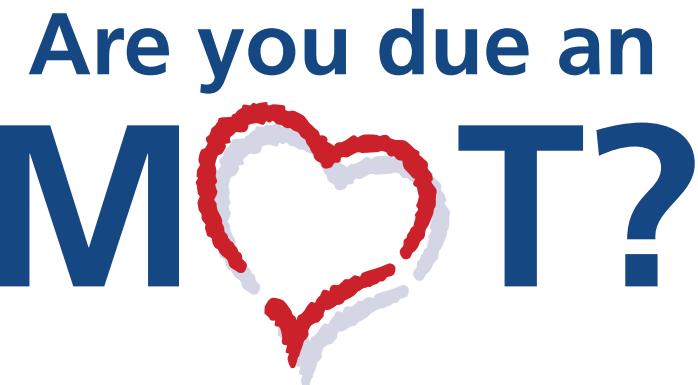
The RSPB was founded by volunteers in 1889. Today, more than 14,000 people help the charity by giving their time for free.

Volunteer's week runs from June 1 to June 7. To find out more call Jenny on 01273 763608 or email: jenny.sweet@rspb.org.uk.

Calling all creative types

THE Swale Arts Forum is inviting artists and associated groups within the creative sector from across the district to join them for an open evening tomorrow.

Organiser and Swale Arts Forum Chairman, Sioux Peto hopes visual artists, musicians, filmmakers, creative writers and performing artists will attend the event at the Polka Dot Art Centre in London Road Teynham from 6.30pm to 8pm.



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THE legend of the Little Ships lives on.

In Ramsgate last week dozens of craft sailed into the harbour to re-enact the miraculous rescue of thousands upon thousands of Allied troops from the beaches of Dunkirk 70 years ago.

Ships of all shapes and sizes moored up as part of the town's Dynamo Day celebrations on Thursday, which attracted thousands of people.

The event marked the feat of the rescue as well as the town's part in the rescue of some 358,000 servicemen from Normandy as the Nazis made their relentless push to the French beaches.

Tom Tit

No better example of the Dunkirk spirit exists than the story of the vessel Tom Tit.

The boat made 16 trips back and forth to larger carrier vessels during the extraordinary evacuation effort.

It was taken without permission from Ramsgate harbour by two young Thanet brothers, Ron and Alan Tomlinson, who worked for local firm Claxton Shipwrights.

Their only thought was to help the evacuation and they took off across the Channel with not a thought for their own safety.

The brothers feared they would get in trou-

The Little Ships that achieved big things

Last week was the 70th anniversary of the 1940 Dunkirk evacuation. Reporters Tom Betts and Nick Ames saw celebrations on both sides of the Channel to remember the heroes... and the little ships

ble for their efforts and be arrested, but they were rightly commended and praised for their bravery when they arrived back home.

The Tom Tit is now under the ownership of skipper Trevor Phillips, who believes it may have helped rescue up to 500 men and was one of the last boats able to rescue troops from a pier as the Germans were right at the other end.

He said: "What they did was a seriously dangerous thing. The boat caught fire twice! These lads were determined to do their bit and that's a fantastic achievement on their part."

Mr Phillips keeps the boat in first-class order and it spends most of its time in the Thames near his home in Weybridge, Surrey.

The Tom Tit, a port-cruiser, was among the 50 boats that made the crossing to Dunkirk last week.

Many of those who sail the Little Ships say they feel more like custodians of pieces of his-

tory than mere boat-owners.

Tony Farncombe, skipper of the Wanda, a motor-cruiser, said: "I'm very proud to be an owner of a Dunkirk Little Ship."

History

"It's also something that you are very concerned about. You are the keeper of a piece of history and you are passing something on.

"It's a responsibility you have. These boats die very quickly if they don't get regular attention. We have to look after them."

Ian Gilbert owns the motor-yacht Papillon, which was built in 1930.

He said: "When I had the chance to buy a Dunkirk Little Ship, it seemed too good an opportunity to miss, but these are pieces of history and we must remember that and maintain them in such a way."

"This is my third return and every five years

it becomes more of an occasion – it's a fabulous thing to be involved in.

"It's wonderful that Operation Dynamo and the sacrifices that were made on the beaches is being remembered. It's going to be a big celebration in France this weekend."

Ray Dunstone of the Angele Aline, one of the oldest boats to make the intrepid voyage in 1940, also sailed across.

He said: "The Angele Aline is thought to have saved more than 300 soldiers during the Dunkirk rescue, according to records.

"I bought the Angele in 2007 and it's tremendous to be a part of these commemorations when you think about it. It's incredible."

Hundreds of war veterans turned out for Dynamo Day and the town buzzed with people as Forces sweetheart Kas sang standards such as The White Cliffs of Dover to crowds.

The poignant atmosphere was also evident

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SALUTE: Scots Guard Piper heralded the arrival of the veterans to Dunkirk



REMEMBER: The Little Ships arrive off the French coast, left; Veterans recall the dark days of 1940 and the rescue mission, middle; school children from Kent fly the flags in celebration



The Dunkirk Spirit is alive and well

TALES of heroism, miraculous escapes and tragedy were all shared by Second World War veterans as they paid respects to fallen comrades and remembered the events of 70 years ago in Dunkirk, last week.

The anniversary marked the evacuation of the French port, codenamed Operation Dynamo, which took place between May 26 and June 4, 1940.

A flotilla of 900 naval and civilian craft was sent across the Channel under RAF protection and managed to rescue 338,226 people.

During the evacuation, the Luftwaffe attacks reduced the town of Dunkirk to rubble and destroyed 235 vessels and 106 aircraft.

At least 5,000 soldiers lost their lives.

Although the Germans took more than a million Allied prisoners in three weeks at a cost of 60,000 casualties, the evacuation was a major boost to British morale.

Hundreds of small vessels set sail to bring the troops off the beaches after an order was issued on BBC Radio to "all owners of self-propelled pleasure craft between 30 and 100 feet in length to send all particulars to the Admiralty".

The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, described the "miracle of deliverance" from

Dunkirk and warned of an impending invasion in a moving speech to Parliament on the day the last allied soldier arrived home at the end of the 10-day operation.

The 'Dunkirk Spirit' has passed into British folklore and the originators of that phrase remembered proudly the events of early summer 1940.

Veterans, along with guests, schoolchildren and representatives of the Help for Heroes charity arrived in Dunkirk on the Norfolkline ship Maersk Dover accompanied by the Parachute Regimental Band.

Many of the remaining Little Ships also made the crossing for remembrance ceremonies in Dunkirk.

Michael Weller-Bentall, now 89, and with family in Ashford, remembers Dunkirk being like 'Dante's Inferno'.

He said: "When we reached the town it was on fire. Boats were sunk all along the port. It was like something from Dante's Inferno.

"But I saw a little boat on the edge of the water and it had oars on board. I knew how to row so we made it out to a minesweeper."

On board the ship the rescued soldiers had another slice of luck.

"A dive bomber dropped its bomb straight

into our ammunition compartment," said Mr Weller-Bentall who now lives in Canada and walked to the beaches of Dunkirk over a period of days from near Brussels as the British Army retreated.

"If we hadn't run out we'd have been blown to pieces. I knew nothing about it, though.

"I was asleep and only woke up when we reached Sheerness.

"But if it had gone off I'd have been at the bottom of the Channel."

George Kemp of the Queen's Cameron Highlanders joined the Army in 1940 after seeing footage of the Dunkirk evacuation on the cinema news.

He said: "I knocked two years off my age in order to join up. So the Army still thinks I'm 88 but actually I'm 86.

"It's an honour to pay tribute to the men of Dunkirk today.

"It's great to meet up with some of my former comrades and it's also great to see many current soldiers giving us so much respect."

The ship carrying the veterans left the Port of Dover after an address from Lord Lieutenant of Kent Allan Willett who praised the courage of the men who fought 70 years ago and to the sound of the Parachute Regiment band. NA

in the harbour area, where members of the public were invited to meet Little Ships owners and crews where the boats were moored.

Many, such as Ian Frank from Dover, took the chance to board vessels.

He said: "I wanted to come today to see the Little Ships for myself.

"With it being the 70th anniversary, I thought it the ideal time to come down.

"The skippers of the boats I have talked to are all dedicated to keeping them alive and working, which is great to see.

"It's such an inspiring event and I hope the crossing goes well for them tomorrow.

"Dunkirk was not a military triumph as it marked our retreat, but it did show our spirit and camaraderie as never before and probably never since." TB

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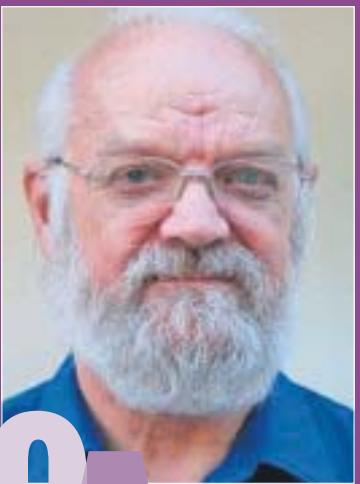
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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

MICHAEL STEED



Q & A

Reporter Jenny Armstrong talks to the president of the Liberal Party in 1978-9, who is a leading election expert and a Canterbury councillor, about the changing face of the electorate and the future of the city

Q Did the local vote demonstrate anything to you?

A Yes. It showed the Canterbury constituency is less Conservative than people believe.

If you look at all the Kent constituencies it is the second least Conservative. Dover is the least Conservative, where the Conservatives polled 44 per cent. Canterbury, next, with 44.8 per cent, and then there are constituencies like Dartford with 48.8 per cent, Rochester with 49.2 per cent, Sittingbourne and Sheppey with 50 per cent. They were all held by Labour until the election and yet the Conservative share of the vote is higher. The split of votes in the past has made Canterbury appear more Conservative than it really is.

Q How does this year's result compare with last year's?

A Just look at the seats around Canterbury to see what happened to the Conservative vote in the last five years. In Faversham it went up six per cent, in Ashford it went up 2.7 per cent, in Folkestone it didn't go up, I think essentially because Michael Howard had a strong personal vote. In Dover the Conservative share of the vote went up nine per cent. In Thanet North it went up 4.7 per cent, and in Thanet South the Conservative share of the vote went up 6.8 per cent. So, if the Conservatives had done in Canterbury as they were doing in surrounding constituencies, the vote went up a measly 0.3 per cent.

Q Why has this happened?

A I think there are two reasons. One is that the Conservatives are not so popular in Canterbury for political reasons. Secondly, the social character of the constituency is changing.

All university seats, which are situated in what used to be Conservative strongholds, have steadily become more left-wing in their voting behaviour. It is not just students of course; it is all the things that come with students, which includes the teaching staff, the young people who come to the city as students then stay on to work.

The Canterbury I knew as a boy was a farmers' market town. It had a strong Church of England and Army presence, unlike the vibrant and metropolitan feel it has today.

Q Is it likely to continue changing?

A Yes. It is built into what has happened here. All the Conservative voters in the larger, suburban houses are either moving out or dying off, to be replaced by younger people whose voting habits are less class-bound and tend, if they are professional and well-educated, to be more to the left. This doesn't mean any one party – the Greens do very well in cities like this. The Greens did well in the European elections here and they won a seat in Brighton, a not dissimilar constituency.

Q How has the area changed?

A When I was a boy Canterbury council, that is the historic area of Canterbury city, had 32 members. There were normally 30, 31 or 32 Conservatives, and one or two Labour.

Canterbury was so old-fashioned. Now it is a much more vibrant and outgoing place. The university opened in the late 1970s, Labour took control of the old Canterbury area in the early 70s, I think 1971.

Now within the bigger Canterbury district, which is all the villages, Whitstable and Herne Bay, the historic city of Canterbury is only a small part. In Canterbury itself there are 14 councillors, 11 Liberal, three Conservative and no Labour.

Q What does this mean?

A It means the Liberals are better placed next time. But in the 2005 election there is no doubt in Whitstable that Labour was clearly stronger.

Liberal-minded, green, centre-left voters wanted to say who has got the best chance of beating the Tories. If they lived in Whitstable they chose Labour; if they lived in Canterbury itself they chose the Liberal Democrats.

Hence the tactical vote was split. Now it has become clear and that alters the game of politics in Canterbury very considerably.

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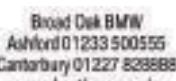
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Getting involved in the World Cup this summer

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

ENGLAND manager Fabio Capello has backed KOS Media's new Fab Football 2010 campaign aimed at increasing participation in the sport.

Ahead of leading the Three Lions into battle at next month's World Cup, the Italian supremo is fighting our corner as we attempt to lure people away from their television sets and onto the field of play.

The campaign we are launching today – which also has the backing of FA vice-chairman Barry Bright and sports minister Hugh Robertson – will highlight the health and social benefits of playing football, as well as provide information on how disabled people, women and other minority groups can get involved.

It will also demonstrate how the FA's ongoing Respect campaign is having a positive influence on the lives of children and their parents and teachers throughout Kent.

Capello said: "In England we each share a wonderful passion for the game, and I'm sure KOS Media's Fab Football campaign will be a positive experience for the whole county.

"It is a great opportunity for players, children and families to get involved in football and inspire a new generation."

With more than 3,000 teams and 45,000 players competing each week across the county, football is already the most popular sport in Kent – but we want even more people to enjoy the many benefits of the beautiful game.

Over the next few months we will be talking to health chiefs



FOOTBALL FANS: England manager Fabio Capello backs our campaign; and left, England player Wayne Rooney

about how football can help in the fight against problems such as obesity and heart disease, as well as to the police about how it can cut crime and improve communities.

We will also be offering some fantastic competition prizes.

Kent County FA chairman Barry Bright said: "We welcome and are delighted to give wholesome support to KOS Media's Fab Football Campaign.

Benefits

"With the excitement of the World Cup less than a fortnight away, there is a great opportunity to further raise the profile of England's most popular sport.

"So while cheering England to success, don't just sit in your armchair watching the games – now is the time to find out about the many ways you can

actively get involved in the fun, enjoyment and success of football in Kent."

Sports minister Hugh Robertson – the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent – has also given his full support to the Fab Football campaign.

He said: "If there's one event that can inspire more young people to take up football, it's the World Cup.

"As well as the obvious health benefits, the sport brings together people from all communities and has a truly global appeal.

"As sports and Olympics minister, my top priority is to extend the opportunities available through sport to the maximum number of people so I would encourage all of the young people in Kent to get involved in the beautiful game."

What areas of the sport would you like our Fab Football campaign to cover? We're appealing for all young footballers, Sunday league players and semi-professional clubs to get in touch and let us know.

Send your suggestions to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

It's a radio return for popular Geoff

GEOFF Clark's new radio show, Lazy Sunday Afternoons, launches this weekend on BBC Radio Kent from 2-5pm.

The former BBC South East presenter, is going back to his roots to create the perfect accompaniment to Sunday afternoons.

Geoff will be taking calls and making sure listeners get the latest sport and travel information while playing great music past and present.

Plus he's keen for listeners to shun their PCs as he will be encouraging them to write in with their thoughts, views and requests.

Geoff said: "I am really looking forward to being part of BBC Radio Kent and especially hearing from listeners. Radio is a lot more personal than television; you have a different relationship with your audience. I started in radio way back when and have always loved it.

"You can just get stuck in plus I get to play loads of my favourite music. What could be better than that?"



ON AIR: Geoff Clark

Changes to planning process welcomed as a positive move

A SHAKE-UP of the planning system that promises more power for local authorities has been welcomed in Kent.

The government proposals announced last week include the abolition of the Infrastructure Planning Commission and the scrapping of the South East Plan, which sets specific housing targets for towns throughout the region.

Sean Furey, deputy director of the Protect Kent, the county's branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, said there were a lot of things to be positive about.

"It's potentially a good thing if we're going to see more local decision-making," he said.

"The point of all the regional plans was so central government could devolve to local planners, but it ended up being the other way around. The power went the wrong way and a lot of things were imposed on Kent as a result. Hopefully this trend can now be reversed because local authorities know the local issues better."

The official aim of the South East Plan was to ensure the region remained "economically successful and an attractive place to live for future generations".

A final version of the document was published by the former Labour government in May last year, and included a housing target of 32,700 homes per year up to 2026.

Mr Furey said he was pleased these targets would now be removed but was concerned it could undermine the regeneration efforts in towns like Ashford, Dover, Sittingbourne and Dartford.

He also voiced his support for the removal of policy support for rail-freight depots, which he said could kill off the proposed BIG depot at Wrotham, Platt and Borough Green.

Kent County Council leader Paul Carter admitted it was "back to the drawing board" for many schemes, adding that some would never have been successful anyway.

Cllr Carter said he was also pleased to see the back of the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), which has only been accepting applications for major projects such as power stations and wind farms since March this year.

His view that it was an unelected quango that "got in the way" was backed by Mr Furey, who added that there was "very little democratic accountability".

Stopping hospital superbug outbreak is in all our hands

■ BY MARIJKE COX

A HEALTH watchdog has warned of a potential superbug infection outbreak if hospital staff fail to prioritise hand hygiene.

It follows a study of eight of the county's hospitals where bacteria linked to MRSA and Clostridium difficile was found on some wards.

Health experts have now issued a stark warning to hospitals, reminding them of the C diff outbreak at the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust where 90 patients died between 2004 and 2006 across its three hospitals.

Officials from Kent and Medway Local Involvement Network (LINK), who carried out the research, said they understood infection rates were falling across the county, but stressed that hand hygiene standards must be kept up.

Graham Hills, operations director of the organisation, which looks to improve health and social care in Kent and Medway, said some of their findings were "disturbing".

"MRSA and C diff rates are dropping so the high-profile messages by hospitals to use hand gels are having some impact, but it's the inconsistency of use by staff and visitors that is concerning," he said.

"On swabs taken around hospitals, we found bacteria which could pose a risk to patients' health at nurses' stations – such as computer keyboards – bathrooms and patients' bedside.

"Some of the bacteria we found was part of the MRSA and C diff bacteria groups. We don't want to see another infection outbreak."

Research was carried out between September, 2009, and March, 2010, at William Harvey Hospital in Ashford; Kent and Canterbury in Canterbury; Darent Valley in Dartford; Medway Maritime in Gillingham; Maidstone Hospital; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in Margate; Kent and Sussex in Tunbridge Wells; and Pembury, also in Tunbridge Wells.

Hygiene

A total of 1,353 observations were made of staff, patients and visitors using hand hygiene gel dispensers, and 145 swab samples taken from around the hospitals.

Levels of compliance varied from 80 per cent down to less than 20 per cent, with observations of use at the entrance to wards being lowest at the William Harvey, which is run by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

The highest usage was seen at Pembury – one of the hospitals embroiled in the superbug scandal three years ago.

Mr Hills said while he realises it is impossible to create environments that are totally bacteria-free, contamination at key places indicates less than perfect cleaning systems.

Seven of the 145 swabs taken – four from computer keys, two from hot taps and one from unisex public toilets – found bacteria linked to MRSA.

Hazel Brain, a volunteer who helped carry out the study, said: "What we found most disappointing was that so many people moving around the hospital were not making enough use of the facilities provided for them."

But NHS trusts, who welcomed the report, have stressed cleanliness is a priority, proven by the sharp fall in infection rates.

Linda Dempster, head of infection prevention and control at Medway NHS Foundation Trust – where rates of MRSA have fallen by 77 per cent in the last four years – said the researchers did not view every area of the hospitals: "They did not see point of care where hand hygiene is vital because we couldn't let researchers right next to the patients," she said.

"Also, in regards to random swabbing, if something has only just been used it may have bacteria on it, but this will be cleaned."

"If staff see people not complying with hand rubs they'll speak to them, but it's difficult to police them 24/7."

BREAK TIME

Pupils in a spin over Disney show

A SITTINGBOURNE school has announced it will stage Beauty and the Beast for this year's summer show.

Pupils at The Sittingbourne Community College are determined the Walt Disney classic – which will be performed on a revolving stage – will be the school's best production.

Show director Lyn Jones said: "Beauty and the Beast has been a hit since the story was first told, and the morals are ones that are still passed down through families. It is going to be a fantastic show. The songs are catchy, the acting is superb and the costumes and set designs are amazing."

The college will run the show over four nights from Wednesday, June 30, up to and including Saturday 3rd July.

Tickets are now on sale. To order yours either email kelly.hickey@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk or telephone 01795 472449 ext 278. Tickets cost £6 per adult and £4 per student/concession.

Don't forget to sign up for Kent test

PRIMARY school children considering going to grammar school in September 2011 must register to take the Kent test between June 1 and July 2. Children will take the test in September 2010.

To register, complete the form online at www.kent.gov.uk/ola or telephone 01622 696585. Alternatively families can obtain a registration form from their primary school.

School invites community to get involved in sport

■ BY JILL HURST

A FAVERSHAM school opened its doors and celebrated the onset of summer with a day of sporting fun.

The Abbey School hosted the one-day event – designed to encourage all members of the community and all abilities to try out a new sporting activity – on Saturday, May 29.

Organisers said the day had been a huge success with people of all ages trying out a raft of different activities.

Simon Finlan, head of sports development at the Abbey School said: "This was a fantastic opportunity for those interested in trying out a new activity to come along and experience the amazing variety of clubs Faversham has to offer.

"Highly skilled club leaders were on hand, during the day, to assist newcomers who wanted to try out an activity for the very first time.

"They gave up their time to answer questions and provide more information about their chosen sport to people interested in joining."

Sporting activities on offer dur-

ing the day included everything from football and rugby to aerobics and Irish dancing.

Willing participants also tried out a range of martial arts, including taekwondo, shotokan karate and danketsu-do.

If that wasn't enough, there was also the chance to try sample cricket, roller-skating and artistic roller-blading.

The event was arranged by the Faversham Community Sports Development Group – a collaboration of groups in Faversham committed to actively promoting an awareness of all sporting opportunities in the district.

Organisers say they hope the day will go some way towards promoting healthy living and positive recreation for those looking to get fit, or simply seeking a new challenge.

For youngsters who weren't so sporty there was an impressive array of alternative fun-filled activities, including bouncy castles and face painting.

Community officers from Swale police force were also on hand to promote community liaison and answer any questions from townspeople about community policing and local issues.

For more details of The Abbey School call 01795 542 488 or email sportscentre@abbey.kent.sch.uk



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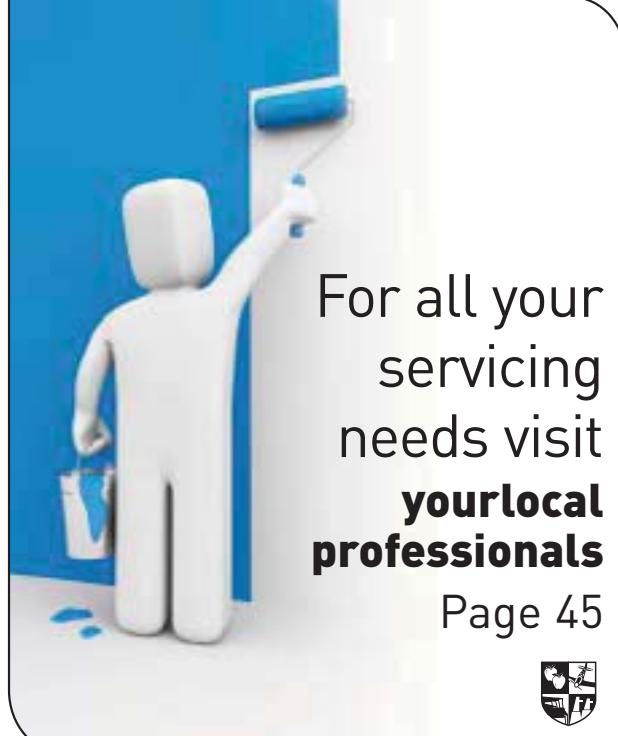
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IT'S SNOW GO: Roads turned to chaos in 2010, during one of the worst winters Kent had seen for 30 years

Winter was cold hard lesson for highway service

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

"DISJOINTED and poorly prepared" is how district council chiefs have described Kent's response to the chaotic snowstorms of last winter.

Roads were gridlocked, ferries delayed and trains cancelled during the worst period of icy weather in more than 30 years, resulting in three "snow emergencies" being called between December and February.

And despite constant reassurances from Kent County Council that it was coping well with keeping the traffic moving, residents stuck for hours on motorways and in town centres remained unconvinced.

Their complaints have now been backed up by chief executives from some of the county's district and borough councils, who took part in a consultation to judge how well the authority fared.

A new report reveals that when the snow first came down shortly before Christmas, the general consensus was that Kent Highway Services was "poorly prepared, without adequate plans in place".

It added that "staff were not available and communication was poor for most districts, if not all".

The councils also criticised the poor local knowledge of important priority routes for some areas, the "disjointed" nature of Kent Highways and the "ill-prepared" KCC call centre.

However, they did acknowledge that lessons were learned after the first period of snow and that improvements were made as

the poor weather continued.

Cabinet member for highways Cllr Nick Chard admitted the council's initial response to the snowfall was not perfect, and welcomed the criticism.

He said: "What I'm pleased about is that Kent Highway Services wants to improve.

"I think this is the first time we've properly consulted people and asked them what we did well, what we did less well and how we can improve.

"No it wasn't perfect but it has enabled us to identify several areas where we clearly need to make improvements.

"Let's be realistic – it was the worst winter for 30 years and I hope we don't get another one like it for some time, but if we do we will be better prepared and people will have a clearer understanding of what they can expect from us."

Clr Chard's winter service review revealed that between October and December, almost 13,700 tons of salt was used on Kent's roads compared to an average of just over 8,100 tons during the same period for the previous four years.

During the cold snap, workmen at the council's maintenance contractor Ringway were put on 24-hour duty while Kent Highways staff were placed on a rota to work weekends.

However, pavements throughout the county went for days without being gritted and there was a lack of communication between district councils and KCC about what roads should be targeted first.

Rail travel could rise by three per cent

COMMUTERS could be faced with the highest train fare rises in the country – despite disappointing passenger numbers on the high-speed service on Kent lines.

Costs could go up by as much as three per cent above the retail price index (RPI), meaning annual season tickets from eastern parts of the county into London could rise by around £350.

Tunde Olatunji, Kent manager for Passenger Focus, an independent watchdog for rail users, said passengers are

right to feel cheated and frustrated.

"They will be paying higher fares than anywhere else in the country," he said.

All other train companies are limited to a rise of RPI plus one per cent.

But officials at Southeastern said the three per cent figure was part of a franchise agreement, which had been in place for the last four years.

A spokesman said: "This is not necessarily the amount tickets will go up by – that is the most they are allowed to go up by."

Time to SAVE county's classic buildings

A LEADING conservation charity which highlights Britain's best unloved properties has already seen a major success in Kent.

Every year, SAVE puts together a register of some of Britain's finest buildings that are in need of tender love and care.

This year, while the catalogue was being prepared, St Edward's Presbytery in Ramsgate was sold to the Landmark Trust.

Rhianon Tracy, the buildings at risk officer for SAVE Britain's Heritage, said: "We consider this a major success as it seems this fine building really will be maintained forever."

"This is just what we want to achieve. The buildings we have highlighted in Kent are all in need. Britain is losing enough classic properties as it is – we need to do more to save those that remain."

Marcus Binney, a renowned architectural

historian and author, said: "Every year SAVE sets out on a treasure hunt to find a selection of 'sleeping beauties' across England and Wales.

"Any building type can qualify, so long as it is curious, interesting, unloved and crying out for a new owner or new use."

Included in the new Live or Let Die catalogue is No 27 St Dunstan Street, Canterbury.

SAVE said of this property: "This early 16th century house has been vacant for five years and is neglected."

"The roof is in a bad condition and there is concern over possible structural movement. The house is being offered to let but cannot be occupied until restoration work is complete – for which planning permission is pending."

For more information, subscribe, or to buy the catalogue for £15, visit www.savebritainheritage.org.



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your letters

YOUR LETTERS

Put your faith in the Bible not politicians

Is it any wonder at the great falling away from Christianity when bishops like Bishop Willmott put their faith in politicians, the UN and other failed organisations of mankind, rather than Jesus Christ! If he bothered to read his Bible, rather than subscribe to his church's fairy stories and the belief the world is doomed to suffer into perpetuity, he would know all that we see has already been prophesied. Indeed, in Matthew 24, where Christ's disciples asked for the signs of his return, Christ provides a very comprehensive list of...

Bishop should take his lead from Christ

Having his own axe to grind, John R O'Neon totally missed the point of my letter (May 12, 2010) regarding the Bishop of Dover, the Rt Rev Trevor Willmott.

The issue wasn't whether there was a god or not, it was whether the bishop was contravening the Trades Description Act.

The bishop claims to be a Christian, ie a follower of Christ. He also claims to be teaching Christ's beliefs to his flocks, a very heavy responsibility!

Yet just a cursory scan of Christ's ministry shows he made it quite clear the affairs of the world had no place among his followers.

He claimed his followers couldn't be part of this world system and also part of his kingdom (John 18:36, John 17:16, James 4:4, etc etc).

So the point wasn't whether you believe in Christ or not because the bishop and the Anglican Church claim they do – the point was their falsification of what he taught to suit their own purposes.

Christ didn't live in a palace, wear the finest clothes and tell his followers they owed their allegiance to the rulers of the day.

Phil Granger
West Malling by email

God? I will believe it when I see Him/Her

As John R O'Neon rightly points out, there are many imponderables surrounding religious belief that prevent countless people placing their faith and trust in God (letters, May 19).

Obviously, 'if God made man, who made God?', which Mr O'Neon highlights, is the toughest poser of all, but there are other unanswerable questions that have prevented me from following any particular religion.

For instance, if God loves the world so much, why do we have to suffer devastating natural disasters and diseases responsible for massive loss of human life?

Another is, why are some people afflicted from birth by terrible mental retardation and physical

yourblogger

Simon Robinson explains why he's defecting from England during the World Cup...

“DEAR rest of the world, my name is Simon Robinson, I’m a 27-year-old football-loving journalist from England and I would like you to adopt me.

With the World Cup just nine days away, I’ve decided I no longer wish to go through the torment, anguish and despondency that come with being an ever-optimistic England supporter.

All I want is for one of the other 31 finalists to take me in and accept me as one of their own.

My only proviso is that you can’t be a certified member of England’s ‘perennial underachievers’ group. This rules you out Holland and Portugal.

I’m not necessarily looking for one of the big boys – take a bow Brazil, Germany and Spain – to adopt me temporarily; this isn’t about winning.

I’m just sick of seeing England’s world-class team of multi-millionaires go out of the competition with a whimper, on penalties, in the quarter finals. Again.

So come on the relative minnows of Mexico, Korea, Russia, Slovenia et al. I’m all yours.

I’ll back anyone, so long as I don’t have to go through another international football competition as a Three Lions badge-kissing Englishman.

My first proper taste of that crushing England have blown it! sensation came in Italia ’90.

England’s bid to win the cup came to a shuddering halt in the semi-finals, when those German penalty-

taking machines booted us back to Blighty.

France 1998 saw Argentina beat us on penalties in the first knock-out round.

Four years later we were undone in the quarter finals of the Korea/Japan World Cup when pony-tailed goalie David Seaman let Brazil’s Ronaldinho timid freekick drift over him into the net.

Then at Germany 2006 it was back to the familiar penalty shoot-out heartbreak, this time Portugal took their turn to send us home at the quarter-final stage.

Failure after failure.

I suppose our record speaks for itself and we – England football fans – should lower our expectations ahead of South Africa 2010 and be happy to notch up another quarter-final appearance.

But I can’t do that.

We should be reaching the semi-finals on a regular basis. We should be brushing the weaker teams to one side, showing the footballing world that we, the inventors of the beautiful game, can play it!

But we all know it’ll be the same old story come the first England game on Saturday, June 12; we’ll scrape through the group stages with the pundits promising that the team will “deliver when it matters” followed by a dismal display in the quarters and yet another penalty shoot-out disaster.

I can’t go through that again. And that’s why I’m defecting to the Ivory Coast, New Zealand or Greece.

Residents and Prime Ministers, feel free to get in touch. My contact details are below.”

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, Gareth Arnold, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don’t forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourswale.co.uk.

handicaps where they can neither speak, feed themselves or control their bodily functions?

Is being born with severe brain damage and quadriplegia a sign of God’s love? I don’t see how.

Also, if there is only one God and yet so many vastly different, conflicting religions, how can we tell which one, if any, is true?

If an omnipotent creator exists, then why doesn’t God appear on international television proving beyond doubt that he or she is real?

With the current lack of hard evidence supporting the existence of God, I suppose agnostics such as myself will have to remain faithless for the time being.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler
Canterbury

Council tenants must be given their voice

Within the next week council tenants in Thanet, Canterbury, Dover and Shepway will be sent ‘Our plans for improving your housing services’.

KOS Media has been kind enough to publish a letter from me in the past outlining the background to these proposals which will attempt to take council housing management into an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO).

This will include 18,000 properties and the consultation process involves ‘open days’ (not the

public meetings I requested) in many parts of east Kent. There will also be a ‘telephone consultation’ which, again, will be very limited.

Tenants in all areas need to be satisfied they have ample opportunity to ask questions and the Millmead estate in Margate, with a large housing stock, certainly needs more than one designated ‘open day’.

I have also drawn attention to the fact that there are NO ‘open days’ for Westgate and that this must be rectified.

Tenants and the wider public should have a written agreement that this is NOT the first step in privatising council housing which has long been the preferred option of many Conservatives no doubt emboldened by having a foot in Downing Street.

The Labour Group at Thanet District Council has consistently demanded a ballot of all tenants. The only concession has been to hold one if required after the ‘open days’ and telephone canvassing. We cannot see how any council can properly ascertain all of our tenants’ views through this haphazard system.

Labour councillors will do their best to attend all of the ‘open days’ in Thanet and I would urge tenants and indeed the general public to be very aware of the long-term implications in this nationally changed political landscape.

Councillor Iris Johnston
Shadow member for housing
Thanet District Council.



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Charity seeks aid to help reunite siblings

On the back of National Family Week, running until June 6, The Caldecott Foundation is appealing for a financial helping hand for Siblings Together summer camps which bring siblings together who have been separated by the care system.

The Caldecott Foundation has been caring for children who have suffered extremes of abuse, cruelty and neglect for almost 100 years.

In August it is supporting Siblings Together, with some staff expertise to the camps which is a specialist programme designed to improve the lives, relationships and future wellbeing of siblings separated by care and adoption.

National Family Week makes us think about celebrating what we have, but in our job we often come across children who have lost that family security.

One way in which we can help them to maintain their important bonds by ensuring they get adequate time with their siblings should they wish to.

The camps allow us to safely reunite siblings within a safe caring environment.

They were founded by Delma Hughes a professional Art Therapist and mother, who herself suffered from being separated from her six siblings throughout her 16 years as a child in care.

She has brought Siblings Together to The Caldecott Foundation to help develop the camps further since it is a relatively new concept, and welcomes The Caldecott’s specialist input.

It has taken its inspiration partially from an American programme, Camp to Belong who assisted Delma Hughes in her research when she visited and worked in the camps in 2007.

A one-off pilot camp for siblings was held in the UK shortly after this successfully adapting the project to meet the specific needs of children in care in the UK.

Further camps have been held in Devon & also one at the young Vic Theatre London which was a non residential. The camps have since inspired Social Workers & Foster Carers in Australia to create camps for their children in care and adoption.

We are looking for corporate sponsors to help us to finance these important camps for siblings and hope that the awareness around National Families Week, who have also supported Siblings Together, gives potential sponsors some food for thought about those that don’t have a traditional family to celebrate.

If you can help The Caldecott Foundation to raise funds for Siblings Together camps, please contact Sam Scott in Fundraising on: 01303 815697 or Samantha.scott@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

Sam Scott, fundraising manager for the Caldecott Foundation

Government cut in spending not such bad news for KCC

COUNCILS are to feel the strain of Government spending cuts after new Chancellor George Osborne announced £1.165 billion reductions nationwide in local authority grants.

But instead of condemning the massive cuts, authorities have welcomed the decision after Mr Osborne said in return councils would have more flexibility over their budgets.

Under the new Con-Lib coalition, ring-fencing of £1.7bn of Government grant funding will be scrapped for 2010-11.

It means officials at County Hall, which felt its hands were tied in terms of spending under the previous Government, will have a say over where money goes.

In Kent County Council's 2010-11 budget the total figure of Government grants – excluding schools funding – is £585,624,000.

Tory leader Cllr Paul Carter said although future cuts could be significant, councils will have more control on a local level.

"We're essentially going to be freed up," he said. "We won't have to do some of Government's prescribed projects as before where we had to spend specific grants on a, b or c. We can spend the money on our locality and our priorities."



CUTS: George Osborne

A SCHOOL Olympics scheme pioneered in Kent and supported by double gold-medallist Dame Kelly Holmes is to be transformed into a national event.

The Con-Lib coalition confirmed in its programme for government last week that it would introduce an annual sports and athletics initiative for youngsters, which sports minister Hugh Robertson had earlier said would be based on the model for the highly-successful Kent School Games.

Launched in 2008, the brainchild of Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter is a bi-annual event enjoyed by thousands of pupils battling it out for supremacy in 38 different activities.

KCC cabinet member for communities Cllr Mike Hill – also a member of the Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games – welcomed the Government's announcement.

He said: "We're very pleased. We set up a little working group that Hugh Robertson (also the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent) and Derek Wyatt (former Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey) sat on, and they've been very helpful in advising us. I'm delighted these ideas have been taken forward onto a national level. The Kent School Games have been a great success for us."

"It takes a whole two years to run through all the heats and finals, but we are really encouraged by how well it has been received.

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

"Suddenly sports that have been in the doldrums are coming to the fore, and our schoolchildren are really embracing the positive ideals of the Olympic Games."

The heats for the second Kent School Games started last year, with more than 30,000 pupils aged five to 16 – including those with disabilities – taking part. The finals will be held in July.

Prime Minister David Cameron revealed the first School Olympics would begin next year and climax with a session held at the new Olympic Stadium in 2012.

He said a key reason in creating the scheme was so that it helped to make sure the London 2012 Games benefit the entire country and not just the capital.

The news is sure to be welcomed by double gold-medallist and Hildenborough resident Dame Kelly Holmes, who told KOS Media in October that she wanted the Kent School Games model to be adopted by whichever party won the general election.

She said: "It was the mass participation and how so many people and agencies were running the events – the council, schools, teachers and young people that came on board.

"I thought it was absolutely brilliant and a great model to replicate around the country.

"I've been mulling over it. I'm always being asked my opinion or to back an initiative, and this was one of the things I was asked about and I said 'yes'."



WINNING WAYS: Olympic double-gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes has backed Kent School Games from start

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DAY & NIGHT**Folk club's invitation**

ACCOMPLISHED singer-songwriter Martha Tilston will perform for Faversham Folk Club next week.

Tilston, an enchanting performer who writes honest, poetic songs, is at the Chimney Boy in Preston Street, Faversham at 8.30pm on Wednesday, June 9. Tickets cost £8 for members and £9 for non-members. Call 01795 536857.

Going green at market

DISCOVER ethically-traded goods and energy-saving initiatives at the Keen, Green and Ethical Trade Market.

The 'green street' event will be held in St George's Street in Canterbury on Saturday and Sunday, from 9am to 5pm both days. There will also be live music and craft demonstrations. For details visit www.marketsquaregroup.co.uk.

Opera on the big screen

WATCH a famous opera on the big screen when Carmen is beamed live to Dover from the Royal Opera House.

As part of the BP Summer Big Screens Programme, the live production in Market Square starts at 7pm on Tuesday. The screening is free and more information can be found online at www.roh.org.uk/bpbigscreens.

Crafts and food for sale

LOCALLY produced goods and produce are on offer at the Folkestone Arts, Crafts and Food Fair.

The Creative Foundation event is next held at the harbour square from 10am to 4pm on Sunday, offering crafts, foods and other goods. To book a stall call Lucy on 01303 245799 or email lucy@creative-foundation.org.uk

Cam sings his thoughts

CANADIAN troubadour Cam Penner visits Whitstable this week with his repertoire of fresh and intimate songs.

With his latest album, Trouble and Mercy, Penner showcases his most contemplative songwriting to date. He is at the Horsebridge Arts and Community Centre at 8pm on Friday and tickets cost £11. Call 01227 281174 or go online at www.horsebridge-centre.org.uk.

Putting on the glitz

ENJOY an evening of music from theatre and film when the Three Sopranos perform in Glamorous Night.

The Friends of the Marlowe event is at the Dominican Priory, Canterbury, at 7.30pm on Sunday, and features stars of Friday Night is Music Night, Welsh National Opera and the West End.

Tickets cost £13, concessions available. To book call 01227 787787.

Have a Girls' Night out

JOIN five typical women for Girls Night at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate next week.

The funny show has enjoyed sell-out runs in the Far East and New York, before returning to the UK. Featuring karaoke and girlie anthems, the show can be seen at 7.30pm on Wednesday, June 9. To book call 01843 591750.

Have a laugh with Paul and chums

**PAUL MERTON
AND HIS IMPRO CHUMS**
Monday, June 7, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

PREPARE for the unexpected as Paul Merton and his Impro Chums make something out of nothing.

Between them, they have a wealth of experience in conjuring comedy from thin air, so Merton and his co-stars are adept at making audiences laugh purely through their own wit and invention. A riotous evening of unpredictable hilarity awaits as the national tour makes its way to Folkestone.

Even the best stand-up comedians need their script, with very few being able to create a successful show entirely on the spot. But the Impro Chums do just that and critics recommend that comedy fans catch these masterful performers in the act.

Paul Merton has been a familiar television face for 20 years, thanks to his regular appearance as a panellist on the BBC's *Have I Got News For You*. His deadpan delivery and surreal wit have made him a firm favourite with viewers, but he is also a highly-accomplished stage comedian.

Along with his fellow performers – Mike McShane, Lee Simpson, Richard Vranch and wife Suki Webster – Merton has been improvising with the Comedy Store Players since the mid-80s. Their tightly honed improvisational skills continue to produce comic gold and the first Chums line-up, which included Jim Sweeney rather than McShane, even toured India a few years ago, to great success.

Described by critics as 'the finest exponents of the impro art', the group produces comic sketches based purely on audience suggestions. Combining experience with the courage to experiment, the Impro Chums are experts at plucking laughs from thin air.

As well as his weekly appearances on *Have I Got News For You*, Merton has had his own TV show and hosts *Room 101*, in which guests attempt to banish their most abhorred objects, people or concepts. He is also a popular contributor to Radio 4's *Just a Minute* and has made a number of documentaries, including programmes about travel in India, China and Europe.

Merton's love of silent comedy is well-known and he has toured a show which highlighted the brilliance of his early comic heroes. He has also recently made a documentary called *Paul Merton's Weird and Wonderful World of Early Cinema*, which was broadcast on BBC4.

Mike McShane and Richard Vranch were both regulars on the original *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, Channel 4's long-running improvisation show. McShane is also a successful actor who has appeared in a number of films, television shows and stage productions, such as *Little Shop of Horrors*.

His movie work has included appearances in the Hollywood blockbuster, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, playing Friar Tuck opposite Kevin Costner.

Vranch works in a variety of areas, such as

Every show is different as impro team find humour in audience suggestions



writing comedy, recording voiceovers and creating animations. He has also appeared on *Just a Minute* and television projects have included children's show *Jackanory* and his own science series on Channel Four.

Both Vranch and Lee Simpson have worked with Merton on his live tours in the past. Simpson is the artist director of a theatre company, *Improbable*, and has been improvising for more than 20 years.

An accomplished actor and writer, Webster has toured India, Malaysia and Barbados with the Impro Chums. She has written and performed in several shows at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, toured with Eddie Izzard's *One Word Impro* and co-wrote the television documentary, *Paul Merton Looks At Alfred Hitchcock*.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £21. To book call the box office on 0844 847 1776 or visit the website at www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



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SHEEP SHEARING AND WOOL WEEK

Running until Friday, Farming World, Boughton Under Blean, Faversham

FROM creepy crawlies to woolly jumpers, there is plenty going on at Farming World this half-term.

During Sheep Shearing and Wool Week, visitors can see demonstrations of the farm's sheep being sheared and find out what happens to the wool, with displays of spinning, knitting and weaving. Tomorrow, members of the public can try their hand at making felt.

Today, visitors are invited to make some very special new friends when snakes, spiders and reptiles pay a visit as part of Creepy Crawly Day.

Those with a sweet tooth are

in for a treat on Thursday with the Willy Wonka Party, when there will be ice cream and chocolate games. See if you can solve the treasure hunt to find the golden tickets and walk up the red carpet to become a trainee Oompa-Loompa.

Finally, visitors can take part in the Have a Go Falconry Day on Friday, when the farm's falconer Sharon Hollens will demonstrate how to fly beautiful birds of prey.

Admission costs £8/£7.50 for adults and £7 for children. For more information call 01227 751144 or visit www.farming-world.co.uk.



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Wednesday June 2 to Saturday June 5, Winter Gardens, Margate



TRUE love and unforgettable songs feature in the popular musical, Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

Margate Operatic Society present the colourful and captivating show this week, transporting audiences into a fairytale world of talking ornaments, magical curses and the wonder of love.

With lavish costumes, stunning sets and fantastic music, the show is sure to be a hit with audiences of all ages.

When a travelling inventor stumbles into a lonely castle, he is imprisoned by the frightening Beast who lives there. Discovering that the inventor

has a beautiful daughter, the Beast offers to release the man in exchange for Belle and the good-natured girl agrees to sacrifice her freedom.

At first she is afraid of her unusual host but, unaware that the Beast is actually a prince who bears a terrible curse, Belle's feelings begin to change. But their happiness is threatened when a local thug who longs to marry Belle discovers the existence of the Beast.

Tickets cost £10/£9. To book call the Winter Gardens box office on 01843 292795/296111 or the MOS box office on 01843 297780 or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.

CLASSICAL PERFORMANCES

Various venues, various dates



THREE musicians from different corners of the globe perform together this month in a spirit of unity.

The Canterbury Three Cities Association was set up to develop personal links between the UK, the US and the former USSR, to help bring an end to the Cold War.

To mark the silver jubilee, the association has commissioned a new piano trio from young Canterbury composer, Matthew Brown and the work receives its world premiere this weekend.

The performers are violinist Andrew Francois from Illinois in the US, cellist Ivan Hussey (pictured) from Canterbury and pianist Sergey Vasiliev from Vladimir, Russia.

Concerts will be held at Wye Parish Church on Saturday (June 5); the Church of St Mary & St Eanswythe in Folkestone on Wednesday, June 9 and Whitstable Methodist Church on Saturday, June 12.

Tickets cost £7/£5 and can be booked on 01227 769785. Tickets for the Wye concert are also available from Wye News and Folkestone tickets can be booked by calling 01303 243450.

A free taster concert will be held at the Huguenot Chapel in Canterbury Cathedral's Crypt at 2pm this Sunday (Jun 6).

For more information visit www.canterburyarts council.org.uk.



AUTHENTIC MEDIEVAL MARKET

Saturday, June 5, Canterbury Tales, Canterbury

HISTORY comes alive at the Canterbury Tales as visitors are invited to experience an authentic medieval market.

Traditional trades and wares will be on display in the churchyard behind the attraction, giving people the chance to see how people would have earned their living hundreds of years ago.

See how items were produced using time-honoured techniques, have a go at archery and take home a very special souvenir from the past.

There will be opportunities to try making vessels of the period with a traditional potter, while a medieval bowmaker and wood turner will also be demonstrating their trades. Browse the fascinating stalls selling beeswax candles and balms, natural dyes, antlers, leather pouches, ochres and earth pigments.

Tomfoolery the jester will be selling handmade toys, Julia Baxter demonstrates medieval calligraphy and there will also be some impressive weapons on display, as originally designed for combat and stunt students.

At noon, the winner of the Canterbury Tales' lookalike competition will be announced, with one lucky person picking up a price of £250.

The event runs from 11am to 4pm. For more information call 01227 784600 or visit www.canterburytales.org.uk.



CHARLES ROLLS CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6, Dover seafront

CELEBRATIONS will go with a bang as Dover marks the 100th anniversary of Charles Rolls' first non-stop return flight across the English Channel.

To commemorate the occasion, a programme of special events has been put together by Dover District Council, Dover Town Council and Dover Harbour Board, with sponsorship from Rolls-Royce.

A spectacular fireworks and pyrotechnic display takes place at the Prince of Wales Pier at 10.15pm on Saturday. From noon on Sunday there will be a display of up to 100 Rolls-Royce vehicles, courtesy of the Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts Club, along with Rolls' own 1899 Panhard Levassor.

A ceremony takes place at the Charles Rolls statue at 12.30pm, followed by a Spitfire display above the harbour and a ten-minute appearance by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. The Spitfire will recreate Rolls' historic flight across the Channel, returning for a final display at about 4.10pm.

The Drop Redoubt Napoleonic Fort at Western Heights will open from 10am to 5pm both days and there will be a vintage car display in Market Square on Sunday. To find out more visit www.rollsroyce anniversary.com.



Picture STEPHEN FALCONER

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Nokia's newbie offers a big touchscreen at the front and a five megapixel camera at the back with a top notch Carl Zeiss lens. The white case option looks up to the minute, it has a good MP3 player and makes this a genuine iPhone rival for the summer. And if it does rain, there's a double LED flash for pictures... or you can watch the built in BBC iPlayer.

A cracking phone a real star from Nokia



Pin sharp: The X6's pictures have good saturation and contrast

Camera	8/10
Music player	7/10
Ease of use	8/10
Value for money deals	6/10
Style	10/10



Popping colours: Picture quality is great but the Vivaz's video is the best here, possibly the best on any mobile phone

Sony Ericsson Vivaz

The Vivaz is the latest offering by Sony Ericsson and it's already proving a winner for style and lightness. Its 8.1 megapixel camera sets the standard, shoots panoramas - taking three snaps that join together for wide vistas - and offers HD quality video.

A large touchscreen and brilliant music player from the inventors of the Walkman make this phone top of the desirable list.

Camera	9/10
Music player	8/10
Ease of use	7/10
Value for money deals	9/10
Style	9/10

Summer's here at last and a good cameraphone makes it easy to capture all those special times. New mobile phones which have top notch cameras give users picture quality that matches, and often exceeds, some dedicated compact cameras.

Look out for five megapixel or above which means decent quality snaps and should ensure it takes quality video too. And the best cameraphones make it easy for you to upload your pictures or videos straight to YouTube, Facebook, Picasa or Flickr - so you can share the moment with people anywhere.

Yourstyle tested some of the best and here's our pick of this summer's cameraphones



Acceptable: But this phone makes sharing easy across social networks

Camera	6/10
Music player	7/10
Ease of use	9/10
Value for money deals	9/10
Style	6/10

Motorola Dext

A five megapixel camera but no flash means the Dext is best used outside. But it earns its place here through brilliant access to all your social networks, and a dedicated keyboard for super-fast texting. Its music player is first class and you can add storage with a microSD card and, best of all, this £300 Android phone can be nabbed at Orange for a bargain £149 on pay as you go.



Impressive: Picture quality is up there with the best on Samsung's top cameraphone



Samsung M8800 Pixon

The company's best cameraphone with an 8.1 megapixel camera. Good touchscreen with top quality pictures and decent on-screen keyboard. It showed occasional reluctance to link to the internet by WiFi but it worked well. A capable phone that's cheap because it's not seen as a trend setter.

Some great contract deals available mean the phone is almost free.

Camera	8/10
Music player	6/10
Ease of use	9/10
Value for money deals	8/10
Style	5/10

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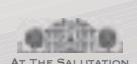
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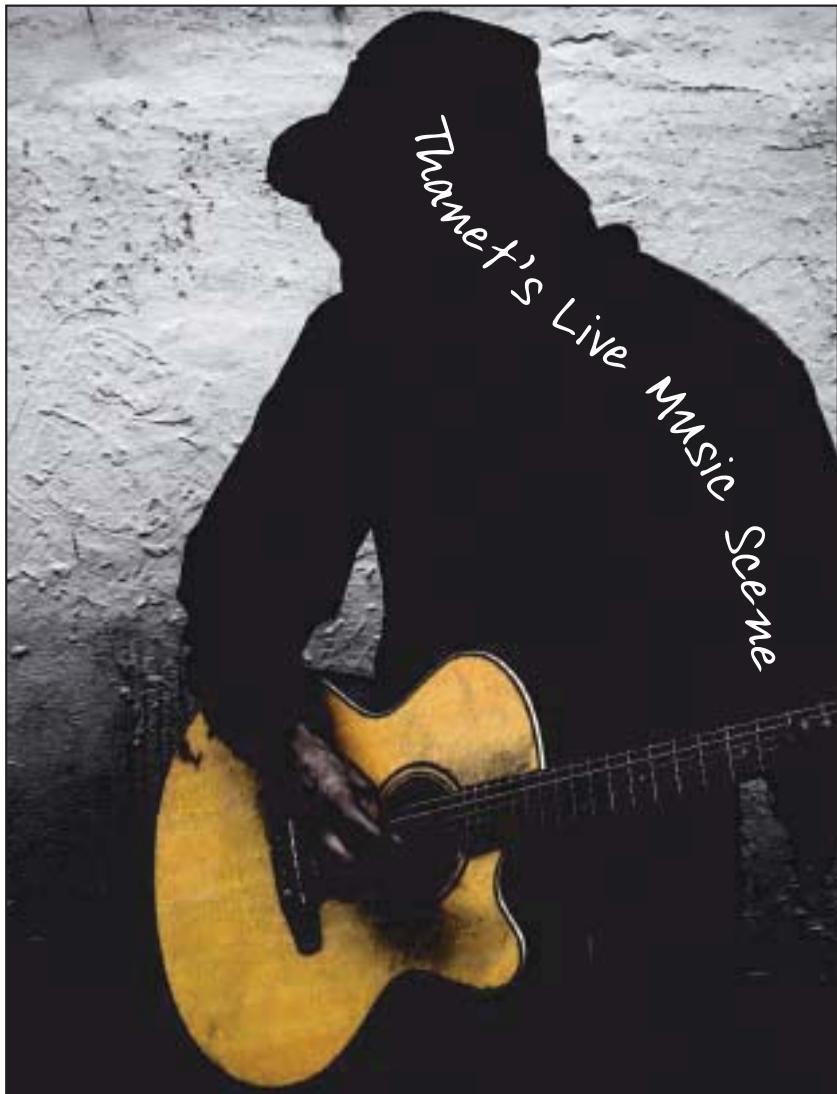
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ASHFORD Designer Outlet will be bringing a touch of style to Folkestone Racecourse by sponsoring its upcoming Ladies' Day, taking place on Monday, June 7.

To celebrate, the outlet is offering readers the chance to win two tickets to the event plus a £250 gift card.

With over 70 stores, including L.K. Bennett, Phase Eight and Ted Baker, Ashford Designer Outlet is the perfect place to find your race day outfit. Anyone in need of inspiration can get expert style advice in a free two hour session with the outlet's new personal shopper.

The outlet will be on hand during Ladies' Day to judge the Best Dressed Lady, Best



Hat and Best dressed couple competitions – make sure you're dressed to the nines to be in with a chance of winning a £150 gift card on the day.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Ladies' Day Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is June 4, 2010.

Question: What date is Ladies' Day at Folkestone Racecourse?

Located off junction 10 of the M20, Ashford Designer Outlet is open seven days a week. For more information, visit www.ashforddesigneroutlet.com, call 01233 895900 or follow the outlet on Twitter @ashford_outlet.

The winner will be chosen on Friday, June 4 and must be available on Monday, June 7 to attend the event.

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kent-news.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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Third stage adds to Hop farm fun



TOP NAMES: Van Morrison is headlining on the main stage on the Friday night

■ BY JON COATES

THE line-up for this summer's Hop Farm Festival is as good as any other music event in the UK, says organiser Vince Power.

The music promoter is confident that this year's festival in Paddock Wood will be one to remember.

Mr Power feels the Hop Farm event has found its niche in its third year and is now here to stay.

He expects Saturday's bill topped by Bob Dylan to sell out its 30,000 tickets, with 20,000 tickets being sold for the Friday line-up headlined by Van Morrison.

On the Saturday main stage, Dylan will be supported by Ray Davies, Mumford & Sons, Seasick Steve, Peter Doherty, Laura Marling, Johnny Flynn, The Magic Numbers and Foy Vance.

Van Morrison headlines on Friday, supported by Blondie, Los Lobos, Imelda May and Damien Dempsey.

Dr John and The Lower 911 have now been added to this bill and will be the second support before Blondie and Van Morrison.

The Big Tent stage on Friday will host Afro Celt Sound System, Richard Thompson, Peter Green & Friends, and Sweet Billy Pilgrim, with Sparrow And The Workshop, and Paris Riots added.

Organisers announced two weeks ago that a third stage was being added to the event, but we can now reveal that festival goers will also be able to enjoy a comedy show and a campsite area hosting acoustic performances.

The third stage is being called the Bread & Roses stage and the line-up includes The Ruskins, Hoodlums and Billy Vincent.

It will also host a comedy show featuring Bob Mills, Keith Platt and Ian Cognito.

Mr Power added: "Every festival I have done has taken between three and five years to get on the festival map and for people to see it as here to stay.

"With the Hop Farm having legends mixed with great new acts like Mumford & Sons and Laura Marling is the way to go."

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ON: Whitstable outfit Flipswitch perform their track Position Politician



SMALL GIG: Smugglers Records at the Tom Thumb Theatre, Cliftonville



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Flipswitch - 5/6 Walmer Castle Pub in Deal
- 2 CWB - 13/6 Sellindge Music Festival
- 3 The Suspects - 24/6 Earls in Maidstone
- 4 Gristlebridge - 3/7 Command House, Chatham
- 5 Happy Daze - 10/7 The Share & Coulter in Herne Bay

The promoter had planned to hold the Hop Farm Festival on just the Saturday and arrange a separate event on the Sunday.

This would have been called the Pop Farm Festival and would have been aimed at a younger audience.

But Mr Power said he was forced to shelve this idea as he missed a couple of the big acts he was aiming for, but a two-day Hop Farm and one-day Pop Farm events could be on for next year.

"With the Hop Farm having legends mixed with great new acts like Mumford & Sons and Laura Marling is the way to go."



OPULENCE: The golf course at the Aphrodite Hills Resort in Cyprus, and below, the resort's luxurious Retreat Spa will please non-golfers

yourgetaways



Pack up your clubs and head for secret paradise

■ BY DOMINIC PICKSLEY

IF YOU'RE heading to the Mediterranean for a spot of golf, forget booking a hotel in Portugal or Spain – try Cyprus instead.

For years, Portugal and Spain have enjoyed something of a monopoly on the finest golfing destinations in the Mediterranean, but they may be about to face quite a challenge from Cyprus.

When it comes to golf, Cyprus is the new kid on the block. It only boasts three courses, but there are ambitious plans for another 14 in the next few years to turn the island into another golfer's paradise.

If the impressive courses at Aphrodite Hills, Secret Valley and Minthis Hills are anything to go by, Cyprus is well on its way to becoming a utopia for golfers of all abilities.

I teed off my experience at the opulent surroundings of the Aphrodite Hills Resort, a fabulous five-star development on a plateau overlooking Petra tou Romiou, the legendary birthplace of Aphrodite, the goddess of love.

The resort oozes elegance, but for 150 euros a round, you expect something special! Built on a mountain, it is separated by a dramatic ravine, so buggies are essential to complete the course in day.

Aphrodite Hills has plenty for golf widows and families too. It also features a first-class tennis academy, a beach club, and a multi-purpose sports court for children, with everything from volleyball to mini-football.

The surrounding region is steeped in local history and culture. Taste the local vintage at a nearby winery

FACT FILE: CYPRUS

Dominic was a guest of the Cyprus Tourism Organisation and flew Cyprus Airways (from London, Manchester and Birmingham) Reservations: 020 8359 1333 and www.cyprusair.com.

Operators to Aphrodite Hills Resort include Olympic Holidays, which offers seven nights' half-board from £900 with return flights ex-Gatwick June 2, incl transfers.

Olympic Holidays reservations: 0844 576 2386 and www.OlympicHolidays.com. Further resort information: www.aphrodite-hills.com.

Destination enquiries: Cyprus Tourism Organisation (020 7569 8800 and www.visitcyprus.com). Columbia Beach Resort Pissouri



(www.columbia-hotels.com) operates free bus to the golf courses. Junior garden view suites start at 195 euros per night. Almyra Hotel (www.almyra.com) has garden view rooms from 160 euros per room per night. Details of Secret Valley and Minthis Hills courses available on www.cyprusgolf.com.

and wine museum, or try your hand at workshops which turn out traditional Cypriot clay pots.

Next up was Secret Valley Golf Club, a short drive from Aphrodite Hills, and a course within a colourful, picturesque valley. An 'easier' proposition than the previous day, but hardly one to be taken lightly.

Although less glamorous than Aphrodite Hills, Secret Valley still had an air of grandeur, set in a natural amphitheatre with the hills looming up to create a bowl.

It felt the most 'British' of the three – and the rain we encountered made us feel decidedly British too.

While we got drenched by the heavy downpour – rare in these parts, but welcome for the rain-starved country – this was Cyprus, so we were soon dry and the round was completed in bright sunshine.

We then moved up the road to Paphos, a city festooned in history

and an archaeology lover's delight, whether it be the immaculately preserved mosaics at the House of Dionysus near the popular harbour, or the World Heritage site of the Tombs of the Kings.

Our final golfing destination was Minthis Hills near the village of Tsada, just 15km north-east of Paphos, another venue of breathtaking beauty.

At an altitude of 550 metres above sea level and with meandering hills all around, Minthis provides a stunning vista of the Cypriot countryside and offers a challenging 18 holes.

Enjoying the beautiful Cypriot sunshine and countryside was a delight in itself, but to do it while playing a round was pure heaven.

If you're seeking a new challenge, Cyprus is definitely the place to take your clubs to.

And make it snappy before the secret's out.

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MOTORS NEWS



Nissan reveals a Juke box full of styling tricks

NISSAN is about to open order books on its most revolutionary mainstream car so far – the jauntily-styled yet pugnacious Juke baby crossover.

Priced from only £12,795 and offered in two or four-wheel-drive format, Nissan says it manages to be compact SUV as well as sports car – a 190PS (187bhp) turbocharged version heads the range.

Built at Nissan's Sunderland UK plant deliveries start in September, when it joins the Qashqai and flagship Murano in the marque's crossover selection.



Peugeot's 3008 hoping to be automatic choice

PEUGEOT has expanded its multiple award-winning 3008 crossover line-up with a powerful 163bhp 2.0-litre automatic version (from £21,395).

The new engine gains power while lowering consumption and emissions. It is also available only with a six-speed automatic gearbox, which shows the increasing popularity of 'self-shifters' with buyers of MPVs, SUVs and cars that straddle both classes in the aptly named crossover class inhabited by the 3008. Drivers should still be able to average well over 40mpg.



Golf tees off again with more impressive Match

WELCOME again to the Golf Match – VW's best-known Golf special edition over several generations of the long-running family hatchback.

As hard-pressed UK car buyers hunt more value, the Match replaces the SE trim level and adds some £1,600 of equipment while costing just £300 more than the outgoing car. The Match can also be bought in eco-friendly BlueMotion format. Match prices start from £17,730 for the 1.4-litre TSI three-door – order now for delivery from late June.



LUCKY CHARM: On top of being a terrific looking car a big bonus for Alfa's MiTo is its improved MultiAir petrol engine which has added more power yet lowered the car's emissions

Is it the new Alfasud?

FANS of the legendary yet flawed Alfasud (1976-1989) waited a long time for a successor.

The MiTo supermini (from £12,445) launched last year ended the wait; it looks terrific, comes with lots of features and appears robust.

The big bonus now is the improved MultiAir petrol engines with more power yet lower emissions and the impressive £17,895 Cloverleaf flagship tested here.

The Cloverleaf badge not only revives a sporting good luck charm applied to the marque's blood red cars during its racing heyday, but revives the lightness and allure of the Sud at its fieriest.

It's not perfect of course; it's part of Alfa's charm that something will chaff the neck somehow, but it is a cracking little car.

I've always preached that Alfas must be red, but the test car looked stunning in bright yellow – a tribute to the curvy lines worked into a comparatively small yet practical car.

But the real seduction is behind the Cloverleaf's wheel; I already knew the MiTo was a superb point and shoot supermini,

ROAD TEST

ALFA MiTo

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal

★★★★★

Image

★★★★★

Space

★★★★★

Value

★★★★★

Running costs

★★★★★

Reliability

★★★★★

Green rating

★★★★★

whichever engine you have, but this goes further yet can even average 50mpg if you are sensible.

The Cloverleaf will turn your head though.

There is a free-revving 170bhp on tap from a 1.4-litre petrol unit – 0-62mph in 7.5 seconds – and even with the top 'Dynamic' throttle and suspension DNA setting there is no steering wheel fight or scrabbling of the front wheels as they battle to put down the power, though I can imagine knocking the DNA setting back to normal when it gets wet.

The Cloverleaf can also be flicked through all six gears rapidly, helped by a specially shortened lever in this version.

The MiTo caveats are the usual ones; the cabin is not the most spacious and inviting in class and the boot might be large, but there is a high lip to struggle suitcases and shopping over. But this is less supermini and more baby coupé thanks to style and great powertrains including diesels.

As sales show though, it is the free-revving petrels that turn on would-be MiTo buyers, who end up with a car that is cheaper, more stylish and less common than the increasingly ubiquitous Mini.

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Models shown: Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD Overland Tech £33,995 OTR. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £500 including VAT. Wrangler Ultimate 2-Door £24,995 OTR. Patriot 2.4 Sport petrol manual £14,995 OTR. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £450 including VAT. On the road prices include Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), first registration fee and VAT. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press (05/10). Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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58 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Hatchback Style 3dr				
Cash Price	Deposit	58 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£7799	£450	£165	£38.07	£315
Total Amount Payable £10335*			APR 13.1% TYPICAL	

57 Ford Mondeo Diesel Hatchback 1.8 TDCi Edge 5dr				
Cash Price	Deposit	49 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£9999	£675	£235	£54.23	£385
Total Amount Payable £12575*			APR 12.5%	

08 Ford Focus Hatchback 1.6 Zetec 5dr				
Cash Price	Deposit	58 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£9499	£1250	£180.80	£41.72	£330.80
Total Amount Payable £12067.20			APR 11.9%	

08 Ford Fiesta Hatchback 1.4 Style 3dr				
Cash Price	Deposit	48 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
£6990	£950	£155.93	£35.98	£305.93
Total Amount Payable £8740.57			APR 13.3%	

57 Ford Mondeo Hatchback 2.0 Edge 5dr				
Cash Price	Deposit	56 Monthly Payments	Weekly Equivalent	1 Final Payment
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09/09 FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK STYLE + 5DR 1.4 TDCI 68PS SQUEEZE METALLIC, 6552 MILES.....	£11799	07/57 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI EDGE 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 48230 MILES.....	£9999
08/08 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 12471 MILES.....	£6999	07/57 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI EDGE 5DR METALLIC - HYPNOTIC SILVER, 46861 MILES.....	£10399
08/08 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 19097 MILES.....	£6999	09/58 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5DR METALLIC - MOONDUST SILVER, 14266 MILES.....	£11999
08/58 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 8311 MILES.....	£7499	08/58 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5DR METALLIC - SEA GREY, 30463 MILES.....	£11499
08/58 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 10626 MILES.....	£7799	08/57 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5DR METALLIC - PANTHER BLACK, 49100 MILES.....	£10999
08/58 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 8559 MILES.....	£7299	07/57 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5DR METALLIC - MOONDUST SILVER, 41534 MILES.....	£10999
08/08 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 STYLE 5DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 41512 MILES.....	£5999	09/09 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI EDGE 5DR 140 AUTO METALLIC - HYPNOTIC SILVER, 13223 MILES.....	£13499
00/W FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 ZETEC 5DR 1998 1999 GREEN, 57834 MILES.....	£2499	09/09 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI 140 AUTO METALLIC - HYPNOTIC SILVER, 9862 MILES.....	£17499
05/59 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 ZETEC 5DR 82 OCEAN METALLIC, 5244 MILES.....	£11499	09/09 FORD MONDO DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X 5DR AUTO NON STANDARD COLOUR, 18215 MILES.....	£12999
08/08 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.4 STYLE 3DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 27794 MILES.....	£6999	08/08 FORD SMAX DIESEL ESTATE ZETEC 5DR 1.6 TDCI 125 PS PANTHER BLACK METALLIC, 46920 MILES.....	£12499
06/56 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.4 ZETEC 3DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 44397 MILES.....	£5999	04/04 CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.9 HDI 115PS METALLIC - POSEIDON BLUE, 54364 MILES.....	£3999
05/05 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.4 ZETEC 5DR METALLIC-PANTHER BLACK, 20256 MILES.....	£5499	04/04 CITROEN C2 1.6 HDI 75 3DR METALLIC - BLACK, 47685 MILES.....	£4499
08/08 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.4 ZETEC 5DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 43876 MILES.....	£6499	05/05 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDI 16V XTR 5DR METALLIC-HURRICANE GREY, 49000 MILES.....	£4499
06/06 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 2.0 ST 3DR SOLID - COLORADO RED, 59287 MILES.....	£6999	06/55 FORD MONDEO 1.8 LX 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 66556 MILES.....	£4999
04/54 FORD FIESTA 1.25 FINESSE 5DR METALLIC-PEPPER RED, 51122 MILES.....	£4499	02/02 FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA 5DR METALLIC-HONOUR GREEN, 44668 MILES.....	£3499
06/06 FORD FIESTA 1.4 STYLE 5DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 31787 MILES.....	£4999	03/53 FORD MONDEO 2.0 LX 5DR AUTO METALLIC-DEEP ROSSO RED, 46313 MILES.....	£4999
04/54 FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI GHIA 5DR METALLIC-MOONDUST SILVER, 62811 MILES.....	£4999	08/08 FORD MONDEO 2.0 LX 5DR AUTO METALLIC - MOONDUST SILVER, 18215 MILES.....	£12999
08/08 FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ZETEC 5DR CLIMATE NON STANDARD COLOUR, 31960 MILES.....	£7999	03/03 MG MGF 1.8 135 16V 2DR METALLIC - XPOWER GREY, 42184 MILES.....	£3999
08/08 FORD FOCUS CMAX DIESEL ESTATE ZETEC 5DR 1.6 TDCI STG 4 DPF 110 PS SEA GREY, 45955 MILES.....	£10499	07/57 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 SPORT 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 14261 MILES.....	£7499
08/08 FORD FOCUS CMAX DIESEL ESTATE ZETEC 2.5 25 DR 1.6 TDCI STG 4 136 PS MOONDUST SILVER MET, 25834 MILES.....	£10499	03/03 PEUGEOT 807 DIESEL ESTATE 2.2 HDI GLX 7 SEAT 5DR PEARL CHINA BLUE, 83000 MILES.....	£3999
04/04 FORD FOCUS CMAX 2.0 TDCI GHIA 5DR METALLIC-TONIC, 61150 MILES.....	£5499	04/54 RENAULT CLIO HATCHBACK 1.2 16V DYNAMIQUE 3DR PEARL - FLAME RED, 31613 MILES.....	£4499
09/09 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.6 TDCI ZETEC 5DR 110 DPF METALLIC - VISION, 15056 MILES.....	£11999	01/Y CITROEN SAXO 1.1 HDI DESIRE 3DR METALLIC-ARCTIC STEEL, 27178 MILES.....	£2699
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08/08 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 STYLE 5DR AUTO NON STANDARD COLOUR, 17439 MILES.....	£8999	07/57 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 SPORT 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 14261 MILES.....	£7499
08/08 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR METALLIC-PANTHER BLACK, 18116 MILES.....	£9499	03/03 PEUGEOT 807 DIESEL ESTATE 2.2 HDI GLX 7 SEAT 5DR PEARL CHINA BLUE, 83000 MILES.....	£3999
08/57 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR CLIMATE PACK NON STANDARD COLOUR, 18116 MILES.....	£8399	04/54 RENAULT CLIO HATCHBACK 1.2 16V DYNAMIQUE 3DR PEARL - FLAME RED, 31613 MILES.....	£4499
08/08 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR CLIMATE PACK NON STANDARD COLOUR, 15627 MILES.....	£8299	07/07 RENAULT MEGANE HATCHBACK 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 38409 MILES.....	£5799
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05/54 FORD FOCUS 1.6 EDGE 3DR METALLIC-MACHINE SILVER, 39840 MILES.....	£4999	07/57 VAUXHALL VECTRA DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.9 CDTi 150 5DR AUTO 2 COAT METALLIC - STAR SILVER, 47361 MILES.....	£8499
08/08 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 5DR METALLIC - AVALON, 21118 MILES.....	£9499	08/08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 BREEZE 5DR NON STANDARD COLOUR, 17440 MILES.....	£8299
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Skoda Octavia 1.6 FSI Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 32,300 miles. £6,795

Skoda Octavia 1.4 Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Silver Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 79,450 miles. £2,995

Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 30,000 miles. £8,295

Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Ambiente (75 HP) 5-Dr Estate Feb 2007

Brilliant Silver Metallic 22,473 miles * Automatic Petrol £7,495

Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Dec 2007

Brilliant Silver Metallic 11,572 miles * Manual Petrol £6,995

Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Comfort (75 HP) 5-Dr Estate Feb 2004

Graphite Grey Metallic 48,500 miles * Automatic Petrol £4,995

Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Elegance (100 HP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Metallic Laser Blue, Manual, 23,400 miles £3,995

Skoda Roomster 1.4 16V 2 5-Dr MPV

Finished in Metallic Flamenco Red, Manual, 11,214 miles £7,995

*Correct at time of going to press.

Other Makes

BMW 5 Series 3.0TD 530d M Sport 4-Dr Saloon

Finished in Metallic Titanium Grey, Automatic, 33,500 miles £18,495

SEAT Toledo 1.9 TDI PD Styline 5-Door Hatchback Sep 2006

Nayara Blue Metallic 20,695 miles * Manual Diesel £8,495

Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6 Equipe 4-Door Saloon

Finished in Metallic Gunmetal Grey, Manual, 21,800 miles £7,995

Vauxhall Astra 1.8 16v Design 5-Door Estate Jan 2005

Metro Blue Metallic 29,700 miles * Automatic Petrol £6,295

SEAT Ibiza 1.2 12v Reference Sport 3-Door Hatchback Apr 2007

Black Magic Metallic 40,055 miles * Manual Petrol £6,295

Citroen Xsara Picasso 1.6 Desire 5-Door MPV

Finished in Misty Lilac Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 42,500 miles. £5,495

Ford Focus 1.6 LX 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Aquarius Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 61,000 miles. £5,295

Fiat Multipla 1.6 100 16v ELX 5-Door MPV

Finished in Antarctic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 68,900 miles. £4,995

Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet Jan 2004

Artic Steel Metallic 86,467 miles * Manual Petrol £4,495

Fiat Punto 1.2 Active 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Astral Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 41,430 miles. £4,495

Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 GL 75 BHP 5-Door Hatchback Mar 2002

Bright Red 39,350 miles * Manual Petrol £3,995

Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Colorado Red with a Black Cloth interior, 56,500 miles. £3,995

Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 39,500 miles. £2,995

Renault Scenic 1.6 Expression + 5-Dr Hatchback Apr 2001

Norse Grey Metallic 71,500 miles * Automatic Petrol £2,795



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Semi detached two bed house, Located overlooking an open field, and with good access to the town centre, is this.



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Two bedroom terrace house. Lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, double glazing & central heating.



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Two bedroom mid terraced house. Lounge/diner, bathroom, kitchen & garden. D/glazing & c/heating. Garage.



Asking Price £170,000

Four bedroom semi detached house. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility & cellar.



£170,000

Viewing recommended for this two bedroom detached property. Double glazing & central heating. Conservatory.



Offers in excess of £180,000

Three bedroom semi detached house with conservatory, driveway and garage. D/glazing & c/heating.



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Terrace house. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, lobby, bathroom, two beds, loft room/bedroom three. Double cellar.

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INSTRUCT US to sell your home from 21 May 2010 to 30 June 2010 and providing you have taken up our competitively priced energy performance certificate, 360° virtual tours and floor plans we will deduct the upfront cost paid for this service from our overall commission fee when the payment becomes due after exchange of contracts.

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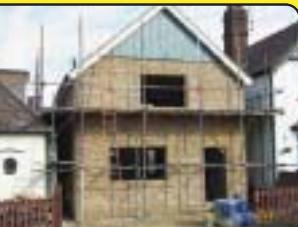
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WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £89,500
First Floor purpose built self-contained flat, 99 lease with 81 years remaining, located over commercial premises on the west side of town, on 'bus route.'



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £269,995
Nicely presented 2 bedroom with study /3rd bedroom detached bungalow located in a popular residential area on the east of town.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £239,995
This three bedroom code 3 sustainable home comes with the benefit of a condensing boiler and solar panel.



UPSTREET, CANTERBURY £169,950
Vacant semi-detached cottage style home located in a semi-rural area with extensive country views from the rear and the First floor to front.



HERNE BAY £325,000
4 bedroom detached family house located in a pleasant cul-de-sac on a popular housing estate close to 'bus route.'



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £119,500
Recently converted self-contained ground floor 1 bedroom flat located on the east side of town, 'bus stop at hand to town, local shops nearby.'



RECOLVER, HERNE BAY £75,000
Luxury 2 bedroom static home set in a quiet location on a site which allows occupancy for 11 months



GREENHILL, HERNE BAY £179,950
Two bedrooms, with established 120' foot rear garden. Situated in a quiet residential area. There is a bus service to the Town Centre, Whistable and Canterbury.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £185,000
2 bedroom modern semi-detached bungalow located in a popular cul-de-sac on the east side of town close to the village of Beltinge.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £115,500
Vacant self-contained first floor leasehold 1 bedroom flat, central location just off sea front and easy access of High Street. Features gas central heating.



BROOMFIELD, HERNE BAY £279,950
New luxury 2 bedroom bungalow located in a semi-rural part of Herne Bay approached by a long private drive-way.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £269,995
Detached chalet style family residence, located on the west side of town convenient for railway station, easy access to sea front and other amenities.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £425,000
Detached 8/9 bedroom house, east side of town, lots of potential former nursing home. Gas central heating. Lift to First Floor. Off road parking and garage space.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £195,000
Spacious 3/4 bedroom Victorian terrace house, offered with no forward chain, centrally located, ideal for young family with schools opposite.



BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £97,500
Spacious 2 bedroom leasehold flat, over a parade of shops within the heart of the Village of Beltinge. Accessed from the rear.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £330,000
This well presented three bedroom bungalow is situated in the sought after village of Herne. Within 1/2 a mile of Herne Primary School and the village centre.



WEST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £224,995
Detached Edwardian style property, popular location on the west side of town close to the sea and 'bus route.'



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £399,995
Interesting Period property, central location, arranged in flats with the basement at present not occupied.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £385,000
Modern family house nicely located in a quiet cul-de-sac just off the Village of Herne. 4 bedrooms, gas central heating and double glazing.



HERNE BAY £395,000
Superior new build by Temple Homes, 4 bedroom house located in a popular residential area on the extreme eastern side of Herne Bay. Built to high specifications with double glazing, gas central heating.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £159,950
Vacant semi-detached cottage style property located on the outskirts of town on the border of the Village of Herne.



STUDD HILL, HERNE BAY £220,000
Two bedrooms on the popular and tranquil Studd Hill private estate. Only 300 yards from the sea with walks along the promenade to Tankerton or Herne Bay.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £124,995
Modern end of terrace 1 bedroom house located on the outskirts of Herne Bay, within walking distance of Herne Village. Offered with no forward chain.



STUDD HILL, HERNE BAY £265,000
Spacious 3 bedroom detached bungalow located on the west side of town and on a private estate within walking distance of local shop and 'bus route.'



SOUTH, HERNE BAY £210,000
Situated in a cul-de-sac this two bedroom bungalow is light and airy. The rear garden is of manageable size, the drive to the detached garage offers ample off road parking.



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Senior & General Appointments 40-44



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Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19 years / adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise self-esteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment.

As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people.

We have the following vacancies at our Newbridge House Centre Chatham:

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We hold contracts for Entry to Employment (e2e) and Schools to deliver programmes which engage and develop young people in order that they may progress into Employment, Training or Further Education.

We are looking for an individual to join our staff team who is enthusiastic, lively and creative. You will be someone with experience/qualifications in Personal and Social areas so that we can expand our programme for young people.

You will be required to work as part of a team and under your own initiative.

Experience in employer engagement, inductions and reviews would also be desirable.

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You will be required to work as part of a team and under your own initiative.

Experience of challenging behaviour would be an advantage.

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We are looking for an enthusiastic individual who can motivate and engage young people between the ages of 14-16 on short motivational courses. You will need to be willing to travel to deliver the courses in various locations across Kent.

PROJECT WORKER x 2 ESF TIE Project (full time)

£17,834 pa

We are looking for an individual to join our staff team who is enthusiastic, lively and creative. You will be someone with experience/qualifications in Personal and Social areas so that we can expand our programme with 14-19 year old young people. You will need to be willing to travel to deliver the courses in various locations across Kent, and including the Young Offenders Institute in Medway.

These posts could work from our Sittingbourne or Chatham Centres

Closing date for all the above posts is 25 June 2010

Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack.

VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for people who like to volunteer to support the learners in our Centres in various roles e.g. mentoring, support for Skills for Life, book keeping and in particular reception type duties. Travel and lunch expenses are paid.

Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack.

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Salary from £13,250

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louanne.newman@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8849.



THE NEW SCHOOL AT WEST HEATH SEVENOAKS

"Rebuilding lives through education"

Principal & Chief Executive: Mrs Christina Wells (BA Hons.)

The New School at West Heath works towards helping students develop life skills and enjoy social activities. As a team we share a real desire to set a new, even higher standard of care in education and you can help us achieve this goal. The School has approval status from the DfES and has an excellent rapport with both parents and the Local Authorities.

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Required from Autumn 2010

The Vice Principal will be responsible for developing and managing a comprehensive and flexible range of services to meet the needs of our boarding students whilst ensuring the school operates in an efficient and effective manner.

Contact Lynne McGrath for an application form and job description.
Email: personnel@westheathschool.com Tel: 01732 460553 ext 294

Closing date for applications 11th June 2010
Interviews week commencing 14th June 2010

The successful applicants will be subject to a CRB check and Vetting & Barring.

The New School at West Heath is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEPM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

Physiotherapy Administrator
to cover Margate and Ashford
The hours will initially be afternoons and evenings and will involve shift work.

Closing date for applications – 16 June 2010

We are looking for a flexible, friendly outgoing computer literate person with marketing experience to join a dynamic, busy, forward thinking physiotherapy team. The job will involve record keeping, invoicing, maintaining filing systems, making appointments and clinic monitoring as well as dealing with the public and duties as specified by the Physiotherapy Manager.

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Jenny Avery-Stevens, Physiotherapy Manager on 01843 235019

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards

East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEPM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
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E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencering.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



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Abbey Court School “WE GROW PEOPLE”

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a Temporary Teacher

for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties

Starting
1st September until 31st December 2010

(fixed term contract)

MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions.

This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN.

Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

Closing Date: 11th June 2010

For further details and a job description, please contact
Linda Taylor, Business Manager
Abbey Court School, Red Court Road
Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP
(Tel: 01634 338236)

SALES PEOPLE REQUIRED

We are looking for an exceptional sales person for a field sales position in the Ashford area
Only hard working, tenacious and motivated professionals need apply

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Career opportunities at MidKent College

Human Resources Advisor Full or Part-time Opportunity

Salary: £30,002 - £37,179

MidKent College has existed for over 80 years and we pride ourselves on our responsiveness to employers and ability to meet the needs of our students. In July 2009 we successfully opened our new £85m campus for the Medway towns and are due to commence modernisation work at our Maidstone campus.

As part of our continued development we are looking to recruit a Human Resources Advisor who will help deliver our operational commitment, primarily at our Maidstone campus.

You will provide comprehensive Human Resources (HR) advice and guidance to the Campus Senior Leadership Team, managers and staff and actively participate in development of employment policies. In addition, you will lead on staff consultation processes, people planning, change management processes, recruitment and absence management in your designated departments. As an HR generalist you will engage with our stakeholders to enhance and support the delivery of outstanding learning opportunities at the College.

This role will involve working closely with the Head of HR and is a rare and exciting opportunity to help develop a fit for purpose HR support service.

The ideal candidate for this role will be CIPD qualified and have experience of working in unionised environments. The person will have a track record delivering professional HR advice and support and be able to demonstrate that they have the knowledge and experience to improve the performance of the HR function.

For an informal discussion please contact Ian Johnston, Head of Human Resources on 01634 383601. Please specify on your application whether you are interested in a full or part-time position.

Benefits include: Benenden Healthcare, Pension, Generous Annual Leave, Flexible working, Childcare Vouchers

CLOSING DATE: 11 JUNE 2010 INTERVIEW DATE: 17 JUNE 2010

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail jobapplications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the Internet please call the HR department on 01634 383162 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.



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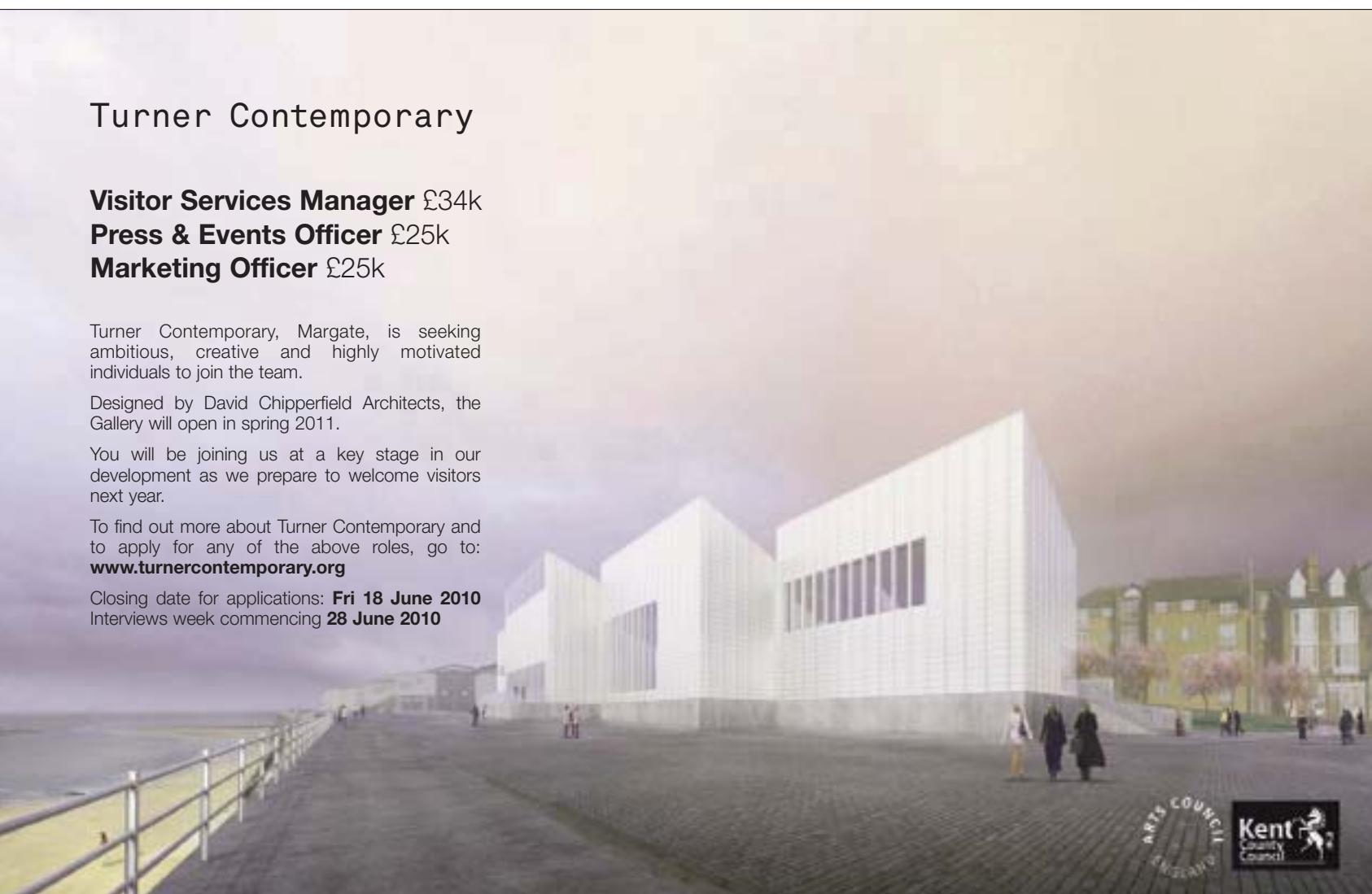
Turner Contemporary, Margate, is seeking ambitious, creative and highly motivated individuals to join the team.

Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, the Gallery will open in spring 2011.

You will be joining us at a key stage in our development as we prepare to welcome visitors next year.

To find out more about Turner Contemporary and to apply for any of the above roles, go to: www.turnercontemporary.org

Closing date for applications: **Fri 18 June 2010**
Interviews week commencing **28 June 2010**



TERMS AND CONDITIONS**KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD**
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability or omission by the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All personal data sent to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material on the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copying, reprinting, licencing, distribution or other use of any advertisement, medians or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, electronic and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
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9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation advertising on behalf of another.
10. No guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error, inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Any insertion or cancellation in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim compensation for any potential losses action may be taken.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and accounted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any TV advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will on a first come first served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser wish to use the media owner's services to complete the service to the advertiser as per the terms of the agreement. The advertiser will accept and agree that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to make the TV production at its standard published hourly rate and the cost will be charged to the advertiser as per the terms of the agreement. The advertiser will accept and agree that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze) etc. The ranking will be rank-based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the publication or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit account due for payment should be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day of the month following the date of issue. Time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstance.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any charges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd for whatever reason, the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The media owner will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the media owner and shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with these.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer/Course Leader in Art and Design Ref: P0413

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Maidstone

This compact, high achieving Art and Design department requires a leader who is inspirational and multi-skilled, able to teach traditional painting, sculpture, fashion and textiles, photography and graphic design as well as be proficient with computer based design processes. They should be motivational with both staff and students, able to guide the team forward into the new BTEC Diplomas, liaise constructively with higher management and pursue local contacts to ensure the courses develop and maintain a vocational link. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Part time hours also available, please state clearly on your application your preference.

Lecturer in Public Services Ref: P0457

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Maidstone

We are looking for an excellent individual to participate in the delivery of Public Services programmes throughout the College. The successful candidate will teach on a range of BTEC / NCFE, and School Links programmes and have a background in Public Services. This post will also involve working with students in sports, expeditions and off-site visits to various Public Services areas.

Lecturer in Health and Social Care Ref: P0323

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

18.5 hours per week

Maidstone

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the delivery of edexcel Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 16 June 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Lecturer in Functional Skills Ref: P0385

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Maidstone

The College is looking to recruit an outstanding individual to participate in the delivery of Functional Skills programmes across the College. The role will involve embedding Functional Skills within learners' programmes of study and ensuring that learners develop and achieve the skills they need to progress. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Child Care Ref: P0070

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

Fixed Term Maternity Cover

Medway 18.5 hours per week

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Departmental Administrator Ref: M0171

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Fixed Term Maternity Cover

Medway

We are looking to recruit an Administrator/Secretary with excellent administration and organisational skills to join one of the largest Faculties within the College, Services to People. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge of office procedures and ability to use MS office packages.

Technician in Hair and Beauty Ref: M0296

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Fixed Term Maternity Cover

Maidstone

We are looking for an organised candidate to assist the smooth running of the Hair and Beauty department. Responsibilities will include providing technical support to staff and students and setting-up the classrooms as required. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

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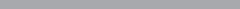
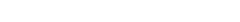
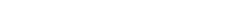
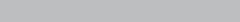
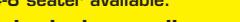
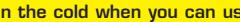
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CRICKET

BY STEVE TERVET

Kent League Division Two

HSBC 1st XI v Minster 1st XI

MINSTER are now the only side in Division Two without a win after an eight-wicket defeat at the hands of HSBC left them bottom of the pile after four games.

Having won the toss, Minster captain Gareth Whetnall decided to bat but his side failed to pose any problems at all for the HSBC bowling attack as they limped along to 107 all out in the 40th over.

Whetnall, opening the batting, made 11 before he was run out and the only other top-order contribution of significance was Andy Hosken's 29, although it took him 71 balls to get there.

Alan Slater picked up 4 for 15 as HSBC ripped through the Minster card and were it not for the efforts of Mike Rees (16) and Neil Hosken (14), the visitors would not even have reached three figures.

Minster knew they had to make early inroads if they were to stand any chance of victory and when Richard Golbourn was bowled by Nathan Nichol for 15, they may have started to believe.

Jack Harris then departed for a first ball duck but Adam Coleman whisked the game away from Minster with a knock of 57, while Jack Potter finished on 32 not out as HSBC wrapped up the win inside 24 overs.

The defeat leaves Minster 16 points adrift of second-bottom side Holmesdale, with a trip to Orpington on Saturday their next assignment as they look to avoid being cut adrift at the bottom while the season is still in its infancy.

Minster tumble to bottom of the pile after fourth loss



LIMP: Minster failed to make any impression on HSBC at the weekend as they fell victim to another defeat

SCORE CARD

Minster 1st XI

	Runs
Gareth Whetnall run out	11
Mark Tucker ct Potter b Jensen	9
Andy Hosken ct Potter b Slater	29
Craig O'Donoghue lbw b Jensen	4
Nathan Nichol lbw b Jensen	0
James White ct Robertson b Slater	1
Jordan Weller b Slater	2
Tariq Khan b Slater	0
Mike Rees ct Golbourn b Robertson	16
Neil Hosken b Robertson	14
Martin Hammond not out	3
Extras (2b 7lb 8w 1nb)	18
Total (all out, 40 overs)	107

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Liam Jensen	13	6	21	3
Jack Robertson	12	1	51	2
Alan Slater	8	4	15	4
Richard Golbourn	4	2	8	0
Adam Coleman	2	1	2	0
Andrew Faulkner	1	0	1	0

HSBC 1st XI

Runs	
Richard Golbourn b Nichol	15
Adam Coleman not out	57
Jack Harris b Nichol	0
Jack Potter not out	32
Bradley Wootton did not bat	
Alan Slater did not bat	
Richard Slater did not bat	
Tom Hutton did not bat	
Jack Robertson did not bat	
Liam Jensen did not bat	
Andrew Faulkner did not bat	
Extras (1lb 3w)	4
Total (2 wickets, 23.5 overs)	108

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Nathan Nichol	12	2	50	2
James White	75	2	28	0
Martin Hammond	3	0	19	0
Mark Tucker	1	0	10	0

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

Bexleyheath 1st XI v Rodmersham 1st XI

RODMERSHAM were beaten by one-wicket in a thrilling contest against Bexleyheath with the visitors simply happy to have competed after a dreadful start.

The top seven batsmen contributed just 27 runs between them as Rodmersham looked like capitulating, but skipper Darren Nokes (49) came to their rescue and dragged the total along to 165.

Kevin Jones then took 4 for 39 as Bexleyheath began to struggle, but his efforts were in vain as the home side stumbled over the line with one wicket and six balls to spare.

Rodersham 1st XI

	Runs	
Nick Denly	ct Allen b Burnham	1
David Cogger	ct Heath b Woods	6
Kevin Jones	ct Richley b Woods	6
Sandeep Rodrigo	ct Monk b Burnham	6
Michael Jones	ct Hossain b Burnham	8
Dylan Emmett	ct Heath b Burnham	0
Kevin Beacon	c&b Woods	0
Darren Nokes	ct Heath b Richley	49
Matthew Jewiss	ct Bone b Bone	28
Matthew Baker	not out	19
Naj Hashmi	ct Monk b Richley	18
Extras	(10b 2lb 9w 3nb)	24
Total	(all out, 48.5 overs)	165

Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Jack Woods	15	2	46	3
Grantleigh Burnham	15	4	29	4
Mohammad Tawhid Hossain	4	0	35	0
Phillip Bone	9	1	24	1
Craig Richley	5.5	0	19	2

Bexleyheath 1st XI

	Runs	
Craig Richley	ct Rodrigo b Emmett	10
Russell Allen	b Rodrigo	32
Chris Shears	lbw b Emmett	4
Ravi Patel	lbw b Jones	22
Raquel Bosun	ct Nokes b Jewiss	13
Jack Woods	b Jones	1
Pat Heath	ct Heath b Nokes	30
Phillip Bone	lbw b Jones	14
Mohammad Tawhid Hossain	not out	8
Steve Monk	lbw b Jones	0
Grantleigh Burnham	not out	2
Extras	(10b 4lb 8w 9nb)	31
Total	(9 wickets, 49 overs)	167

Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Darren Nokes	14	3	43	1
Sandeep Rodrigo	12	2	42	1
Kevin Jones	15	4	39	4
Dylan Emmett	3	0	18	2
Matthew Jewiss	5	1	11	1

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

Blackheath 3rd XI v Macknade 1st XI

THERE was no place to hide for Macknade on Saturday as they slumped to a humiliating 104-run defeat away to Blackheath, having been bowled out for just 59.

Hamish Purdey and Mitu Ahmed both hit 44 as the hosts reached a modest total of 163, with Andy Corcoran and Jamie Riden both picking up three wickets.

However, Phil Rowcroft's 13 was the highest score from any Macknade batsmen as Daniel Carter ran riot to finish with 7 for 21 from his 14 overs.

Blackheath 3rd XI

	Runs	
Joe Ryan	ct Holmans b Jarrett	11
Charlie-Sid Speller	b Corcoran	4
Simon Martin	ct Corcoran	3
Dipayan Paul	ct McDowell b Corcoran	0
Hamish Purdey	ct Taylor b Riden	44
Matthew Gill	ct McDowell b Jarrett	14
Mitu Ahmed	ct Short b Riden	44
Melodi Abbas	lbw b Short	0
James Martin	not out	29
Chris Brassington	ct Riden b Short	4
Daniel Carter	lbw b Riden	4
Extras	(2b 1lb 3w)	6
Total	(all out, 48 overs)	163

Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Andy Corcoran	13	1	58	3
James Jarrett	11	2	29	2
Jamie Riden	13	4	37	3
Kaylen Short	11	2	37	2

Macknade 1st XI

	Runs	
Phil Rowcroft	b Carter	13
Kaylen Short	c & b Brassington	10
Lee Riden	b Carter	0
Chris Jay	ct Paul b Carter	8
Andrew Machin	ct Gill b Carter	6
Steve Taylor	b Carter	4
Terry McDowell	lbw b Carter	0
Jonathan Holmans	ct Martin b Carter	0
Andy Corcoran	lbw b Paul	0
Jamie Riden	ct Purdey b Paul	10
James Jarrett	not out	5
Extras	(3b)	3
Total	(all out, 28.5 overs)	59

Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Chris Brassington	11	4	23	1
Daniel Carter	14	6	21	7
Dipayan Paul	3.5	1	12	2

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Nonington 1st XI v Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 1st XI

TREVOR Earl was the star for Bobbing Court as they eased to a 127-run victory over Nonington to climb to third in the Regional League Premier Division.

Earl hit 37 in Court's total of 233 for 7 with Paul Dennington making 56 as the Nonington bowlers struggled to contain their opponents.

Nonington were reduced to 106 all out in reply, with Earl returning to scoop up 4 for 18, although Kieron Burrett did make 50 for the home side.

Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 1st XI

	Runs	
Richard Gower	b Sadler	23
Adam Haward	ct Coulson b Griggs	23
Paul Dennington	ct Birch b Tutton	56
Chris Murphy	b Birch	11
Trevor Earl	b Knowles	37
Gary Ryan	ct Cole b Knowles	8
Daniel Ball	b Paton	39
Simon Bennett	not out	9
Mark Stevens	not out	2
Paul Bacon	did not bat	
Paul Aylward	did not bat	
Extras	(3b 7lb 11w 4nb)	25
Total	(7 wickets, 46 overs)	233

Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Rob Paton	12	3	54	1
Matt Sadler	6	1	27	1
Ross Griggs	12	2	44	1
Daniel Birch	4	0	22	1
Josh Tutton	4	1	33	1
Carl Knowles	8	1	43	2

Nonington 1st XI

	Runs	
James Sadler	ct Haward b Earl	0
Josh Cole	b Earl	0
Kieron Burrett	ct Haward b Bacon	50
Rob Paton	ct Haward b Earl	4
Matt Sadler	ct Haward b Aylward	5
Daniel Birch	ct Aylward b Bacon	33
George Finch	run out	3
Carl Knowles	ct Dennington	7
Ross Griggs	b Earl	0
Josh Tutton	run out	0
Gary Coulson	not out	0
Extras	(1lb 2w 1nb)	4
Total	(all out, 34.2 overs)	106

Bowlers

Abbott eyes new stopper as Ibrahim stays a Dart

FOOTBALL

■ BY STEVE TERVET

GARY Abbott believes his Sittingbourne side can contest the Ryman South title next year, providing he can keep the base of his squad together over the summer.

The Brickies manager has now spoken to his players and believes most of them will remain at Bourne Park, with the exception of goalkeeper Deren Ibrahim, who has signed a contract with his parent club, Dartford.

Ibrahim spent the whole of last season with Sittingbourne and his glowing reputation as a keeper of the future grew throughout the campaign as he quickly became a fans' favourite.

However, with the Darts now promoted to Blue Square South, manager Tony Burman looks set to include Ibrahim in his first-team plans for next season.

"I don't think he will be with us," Abbott said. "He's signed a contract with them so it makes it a bit different and I have to look for another goalkeeper. Willo [Steve Williams] is signing up anyway, I'd like him to play the whole season, but he's got a lot of family commitments.

"Deli's [Ibrahim] had a good year so he deserves it – he gave a few goals away but that doesn't come close to the number of saves he made to keep us in games. It was nice of them to let us have him for so long, it



TARGET: (l-r) Gary Abbott is eyeing the Ryman South title, but looks likely to lose goalkeeper Deren Ibrahim back to Dartford

worked for us and particularly for him because he's experienced our league and he knows what he can do now."

Karl Dent, another 17-year-old to join from the Dartford academy last season, looks set to remain with Abbott's side having not signed a contract at Princes Park.

The Ryman South welcomes three new clubs next season, with Bognor Regis Town dropping down and Whitehawk newly promoted. Closer to home, Faversham Town will provide the



Brickies with another local derby and Abbott is looking forward to the new challenges.

He said: "I know Whitehawk have signed a couple from Worthing so obviously they're trying to stay in the league. There will be pressure on Bognor to go back up but it won't be as easy as that. Faversham will hold their own – they're trying to sign a couple of players so we'll see how that goes."

"If I can keep the squad together, there's no reason why we can't win it next year."

FOOTBALL



PRAISED: Colin Page is pleased with Ben Taylor (above)

Page pleased with progress

NORTON Sports chairman Colin Page has praised the work of player/manager Ben Taylor after a season which saw the Swale side enhance their battling reputation.

Taylor's side equalled their 11th place of 2008/09 in the Kent League Premier Division but Page insists great strides are being made and believes next season will see Norton move on a step further.

Without a home ground of their own or the financial resources to attract high-profile signings, Norton were always going to face an uphill task last season but Page is proud of the team's progress.

"We're more than happy with what's going on," he said. "We knew it was going to be a difficult time in terms of keeping everybody going. Even though our position wasn't a lot different, we felt we really improved this year – we had one or two new guys coming in who enhanced the side."

"The year before, we were getting the run-around but that didn't happen this year. Even when we went behind, we felt as though we were still in the game. After Christmas, I always felt we were capable of scoring, which was an area we used to be a bit sticky in."

Taylor played an integral role in Norton's tough backline throughout the campaign and Page concurred that the manager had done well to forge such a strong bond among his players.

He said: "The team spirit and the collectiveness are great and it showed in the last game. Faversham didn't want to play us needing a point [for the title] – as a unit we're always up for it, whereas other sides perhaps don't have that."

"We wouldn't stand in the way if any of our guys got an opportunity to move on but their mentality is that they wouldn't move unless they were going up a standard or their financial situation dictated it."



WINNERS: Young Judo Club had an impressive haul

Young Judo Club claim medal haul

JUDO

THE Young Judo Club returned from the Multi Nation competition with an impressive haul of medals as they continued their fine record of success in the event.

While the club, based in Sittingbourne, were expected to perform well, their successes came in spite of a dwindling membership which has now reached an all-time low.

However, club bosses were delighted by the performances of their players who collected 14 medals, including five golds.

Danny Carrott was one of the quintet to take top honours – his fourth successive gold medal at the event, while Ashley Costa was also singled out for his battling displays.

The club is the oldest judo club in Kent and its fighting qualities were illustrated by the younger medal-winners. Henry Dwyer, Todd Winn and Frazer Stevens also won gold, while silvers were awarded to Owen Cullen, Ruben Riplay, Liam Jordan, Lewis Clarke, Richard Seaman and Charlie Hider.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact Martin Clarke at ibfbcfa@gmail.com or visit www.budo-ibf.co.uk.



NEW BLOOD: Rob McNamara (with ball) takes over from Scott Truss as next season's Sittingbourne captain

New skipper and coach for title-chasing Bourne

RUGBY

SITTINGBOURNE Rugby Club have entered a new era following the appointment of a new first XV captain and coach ahead of next season in Kent 1.

Scott Truss, who previously held both roles, officially stepped down at the club's presentation night, although will remain a part of the squad for next season.

Truss's on-field successor will be number eight Rob McNamara, while Jay Jenkins steps up from his position as junior coaching co-ordinator to take over as first XV coach, and Paul Prett takes over the vice-captain's duties from Chris Nutley.

Sittingbourne finished last season third in Kent 1 behind Dartfordians and Cranbrook,

who both gained promotion into London 3 South East, and Bourne chairman Dave Hicks believes they are well set to follow them up.

He said: "I'd like to think we can win it this year, but it will be a difficult league. You've got Lordswood coming up again after they had to drop four levels – they were killing people in Kent 2 last season. Sheppen, our local rivals, have had a massive resurgence and they'll be a lot tougher too but I think we can hold our own."

"There are not many new players coming along but we're looking rosy because the under-17s will be playing senior rugby for the first time and they will add strength to the second and third teams. Hopefully, they'll go on from there and make it all the way into the first-team."

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New Gills boss Andy Hessenhaler and assistant Mark Robson are introduced to the Kent media

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